CHRONICLE

September 1994, Volume XXXI, Number 3

International Conference on Population and Development

OUR COVER

Choices and responsibilities: Finding the balance

The International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, is the fifth major UN global meeting addressing issues stemming from population problems. "No lasting solution to problems of the environment and poverty can be found without resolving population issues", Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the lead agency for the Conference, has declared. With the world facing a population increase from five to six billion in only 11 years, the answers must come soon, hopefully through the Cairo Conference. Thousands of participants—representing Governments, which will decide on a future strategy to address crisis concerns, as well as international and non-governmental bodies and the media—will assemble in Egypt to voice their opinions and look to the future. The colourful cover design is the visual theme for the International Conference, used on a wide variety of promotional materials, including an official poster, brochure and button. The impressionistic globe and cut-out figures—representing the world's humanity and biodiversity—are pieces of an interrelated whole, its designers explained, dependent on the oceans and their bounty, green forests, fields of golden wheat, the sheltering skies, and—ultimately—one another.

Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information Samir Sanbar

Editor-in-Chief Betty Flynn-Connors

Editorial Staff
Zarine Nandan, Writer/Deputy Editor
Sergei Vinogradov, Writer
Anne Cunningham, Writer

Editorial Assistants Erika M. Reinhardt, Herminia N. Roque
Geraldine Y. Velandria, Teresita Q. Victoria

Production Staff Laura Frischeisen, Chief Typesetter
Marc Chalamet, French Edition
Laslo Cheffolway, Design

Contributors Elsa B. Endrst, Harold Fruchtbaum, Nancy Seufert-Barr

---

Published quarterly in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish
Department of Public Information
New York

The *UN Chronicle* (USPS 647-380) is published quarterly by the United Nations Department of Public Information in New York. Not an official record. All material may be freely reprinted but acknowledgement is requested. A copy of the publication containing reprinted material should be sent to *UN Chronicle*, United Nations, Room DC1-530, New York 10017. All editorial correspondence should be forwarded to the same address.

Subscriptions should be sent to United Nations Publications, Room DC2-0853, New York 10017. The subscription rate for academic and non-profit organizations and individuals is $20 for one year. For commercial institutions, the rate is $28 annually. Postmaster, send address changes to United Nations Publications, United Nations, Room DC2-0853, New York 10017. Second class postage paid at New York and additional mailing offices.

Printed on recycled paper

Know
the
facts.

Subscribe
to

the
UN Chronicle
quarterly
magazine.

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 929 BIRMINGHAM, AL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

United Nations Publications
Subscription Office
P.O. Box 361
Birmingham, AL 35282-9363

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 929 BIRMINGHAM, AL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

United Nations Publications
Subscription Office
P.O. Box 361
Birmingham, AL 35282-9363

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 929 BIRMINGHAM, AL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

United Nations Publications
Subscription Office
P.O. Box 361
Birmingham, AL 35282-9363

SUBSCRIBE TO THE UN CHRONICLE

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❒ 1 Yr. $20.00 ❒ 1 Yr. Air Mail $35.00

❒ Payment Enclosed Charge my: ❒ Visa ❒ Master Card ❒ Am Ex

Acct. No. _____ Exp. _____

If not charged, payment must accompany the order

BECOME AN INFORMED WORLD CITIZEN

SUBSCRIBE TO THE UN CHRONICLE

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❒ 1 Yr. $20.00 ❒ 1 Yr. Air Mail $35.00

❒ Payment Enclosed Charge my: ❒ Visa ❒ Master Card ❒ Am Ex

Acct. No. _____ Exp. _____

If not charged, payment must accompany the order

BECOME AN INFORMED WORLD CITIZEN

SUBSCRIBE TO THE UN CHRONICLE

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❒ 1 Yr. $20.00 ❒ 1 Yr. Air Mail $35.00

❒ Payment Enclosed Charge my: ❒ Visa ❒ Master Card ❒ Am Ex

Acct. No. _____ Exp. _____

If not charged, payment must accompany the order

BECOME AN INFORMED WORLD CITIZEN

The UN Chronicle

A quarterly magazine that reports on:

- Peacekeeping
- Disarmament
- Economy and Trade
- Human Rights
- Environment
- Development
- Social Issues
- and more...

The UN Chronicle:

Required reading for people who want to know what's happening in the world today

SUBSCRIBE NOW

Contents

Covering the period
April through July 1994

South Africa:
A new beginning p. 4

Refugees flee violence
in Rwanda p. 15

Yokohama Conference on
Natural Disaster Reduction p. 70

UN CHRONICLE

Volume XXXI Number 3 September 1994

A QUARTERLY RECORD OF UN ACTION AND EVENTS

40 COVER: Population and Development
The Cairo Conference

Political News

4 South Africa: The end of apartheid
9 A chronology of UN involvement
15 Rwanda: Massive carnage, genocide reported
21 Somalia: Humanitarian aspect stressed
24 Mozambique: Support for October elections called for
25 Angola: Further sanctions threatened
26 Liberia: General elections may face delay
27 Yugoslavia: Setbacks continue
32 Middle East: Cairo agreement hailed
33 Yemen; Afghanistan
34 Former Soviet Republics
35 Georgia: Mission extended
36 Iraq: Chemical weapons destruction completed
37 Libya/Chad: Dispute ends
38 Cyprus: Hopes dashed on confidence-building package
39 Cambodia: UN presence diminishes
48 Central America: Second round of El Salvador elections
50 Haiti: Sanctions expanded
52 Disarmament: Commission considers issue of arms transfers
53 DPRK developments
54 Peace-keeping: New report
55 Trusteeship Council: End in sight
55 Western Sahara: Disagreement on OAU observers
56 Outer Space Committee: 1994 session

Economic and Social Issues

57 Habitat II preparations
57 Committee on Information
58 Agenda for Development
61 World Hearings on Development
64 Barbados Conference on small island developing States
69 Commission on Sustainable Development
70 Yokohama Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction
74 Desertification Convention adopted

Feature

75 UNICEF Greeting Cards, 45th year

In Every Issue

2 The 38th Floor
76 A Look Back: Dumbarton Oaks
77 BookWatch
78 News Almanac
79 Stamp Corner
80 Coming Up

READEX
FICHE

The 38th Floor

Following are excerpts from statements by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali made between 1 April and 30 June 1994.

Meeting the press on 3 June at Headquarters.

A framework for the future . . .

Today, more than ever, we need to think carefully about the future evolution of the international system. At a time of transition, every decision taken could affect the course of world events. The question is: "transition towards what?" To answer, we must first discuss where we have come from. One system of international relations has collapsed. Another is being formed. After the Napoleonic Wars, after the 1914-1918 and 1939-1945 wars, important changes took place in the way States related to each other. This time there is a difference. In the past, the end of each major conflict was marked by an international conference to agree on a new dispensation: the Congress of Vienna in 1815; Versailles in 1919; and San Francisco in 1945.

But when the cold war ended no international conference was convened. Yet the need for agreement among nations is greater than ever. Local and regional conflicts threaten international peace and security. Pressing global issues can be dealt with only multilaterally. In the absence of a post-cold-war world conference, our task is to shape a framework for the future, not in theory, but in practice. We must address issues pragmatically. As we do so, we will define new principles for a common future. As we turn to this task we are fortunate to possess the machinery of the United Nations.

At the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Moscow, 2 April

A time for reflection . . .

If, at this moment in history, States have felt the need to place at the head of the United Nations Secretariat a man who is both an academic and a diplomat, it is perhaps because they have felt in some vague way that the present period is as much a time for reflection as for action. Indeed, in the past few years, our world has experienced such an acceleration of history that the values and standards on which international society was traditionally based have been shaken. In the eyes of public opinion, the United Nations often suffers from the ups and downs of this turbulence in the world. Thus it is, in turn, commended or blamed, showered with fulsome praise or criticized. There is nothing really surprising in that. The United Nations represents the sum of the ideals to which we are

committed as a human community. And each of us feels offended when these ideals are flouted in some part of the world.

On receiving the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa from the Carlos III University, Madrid, Spain, 15 April

New UN approach ...

In many of our peace-keeping operations—in Angola, Mozambique, Cambodia and El Salvador—we are not only involved in peace-keeping (sending soldiers to observe a cease-fire or try to assure the distribution of humanitarian aid), but we are also protecting refugees and displaced persons, distributing food, carrying out the reconstruction of roads, cities and hospitals, or opening schools. Thus, our approach in a peace-keeping operation is no longer limited to the military dimension, but includes political, diplomatic, social and human dimensions. Olof Palme said a few years ago that the approach to peace must not only be without war, but must involve the integration of development, democracy and peace. This global approach is, in fact, the new approach of the United Nations, trying to improve the different situations of the world where we have confrontation, ethnic disputes and war.

To the International Olof Palme Foundation, Badalona, Spain, 16 April

A day to call for freedom ...

In too many parts of the world, power lies not in the hands of the friends of freedom but with its enemies. The freedom of the press comes only with long, hard and brave support—and when it is achieved, it must be defended on a daily basis. With the spread of democracy in recent years, press freedom also has spread to areas of the globe where it had been suppressed for years. In such locations, press freedom remains a fragile achievement. Determination and vigilance are needed to enable a free press to take root and come to full flower in its social and political role. World Press Freedom Day is more than a day to celebrate the achievement of a free press. It is a call to convey the benefits of freedom of the press across all societies. This day is thus a day to call for freedom. It is through a free press that the cry of the oppressed can be heard around the globe.

On the occasion of the first worldwide observance of World Press Freedom Day, New York, 3 May

The meaning of security ...

Human security has many dimensions. First, of course, is security of life. Then hunger, homelessness, rape, torture, crime and fear—all are the enemies of human security. In earlier years the concept of State security seemed sufficient. The maintenance of international peace and security meant security for States. It was assumed that the State would look after human security. Today, we need to look beyond the old assumptions. Recently, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) asked people around the world, in many different circumstances, the question: "What does security mean to you?" Their answers focused not on State but on human security. People think of freedom from fear, disease and death. They think of health, education, jobs and the well-being of the family. These issues often span State borders. They require cooperative understanding and effort—not only among States, but at all levels: global, international, regional, national, governmental and non-governmental, local and personal. A new conception is needed. A new dedication is required.

At the commencement ceremony of the Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, 26 May

Standing together ...

Human beings do not stand alone on this planet. Freedom for human beings, which does not take account of other living beings, is, in the long term, a delusion. When species are lost, or habitats destroyed, the repercussions for life as a whole, both today and for the generations to come, are incalculable. We need to be more aware of the effects of individuals and groups on the wider environment. We need more reverence for the natural world around us. All life on this planet is part of a unified entity. We are all a part of it. Let World Environment Day, with its theme "One Earth, One Family", become a vehicle for establishing a universal concord for all living beings, for establishing peace and for nurturing our ecological heritage.

On World Environment Day, New York, 5 June

A reproach to all societies ...

We are all aware that, for 75 years, the International Labour Organisation has endeavoured to promote the rights of workers throughout the world. The conventions and recommendations that originated in its bodies have made it possible to establish international labour standards in such areas as the freedom of association, remuneration, working hours and conditions, compensation for job-related accidents, social security, paid leave, industrial safety, employment services and many others. Today, however, we face new constraints since we must not only protect those who have jobs but also help alleviate the situation of those who do not. Those without work deserve as much attention as workers themselves, since the right to work is an essential component of human dignity; we must guarantee that right. This demonstrates the extent to which the critical employment situation throughout the world is a permanent reproach to all our societies.

At the eighty-first session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva, 9 June

South Africa rejoins the world community

Nelson Mandela elected President

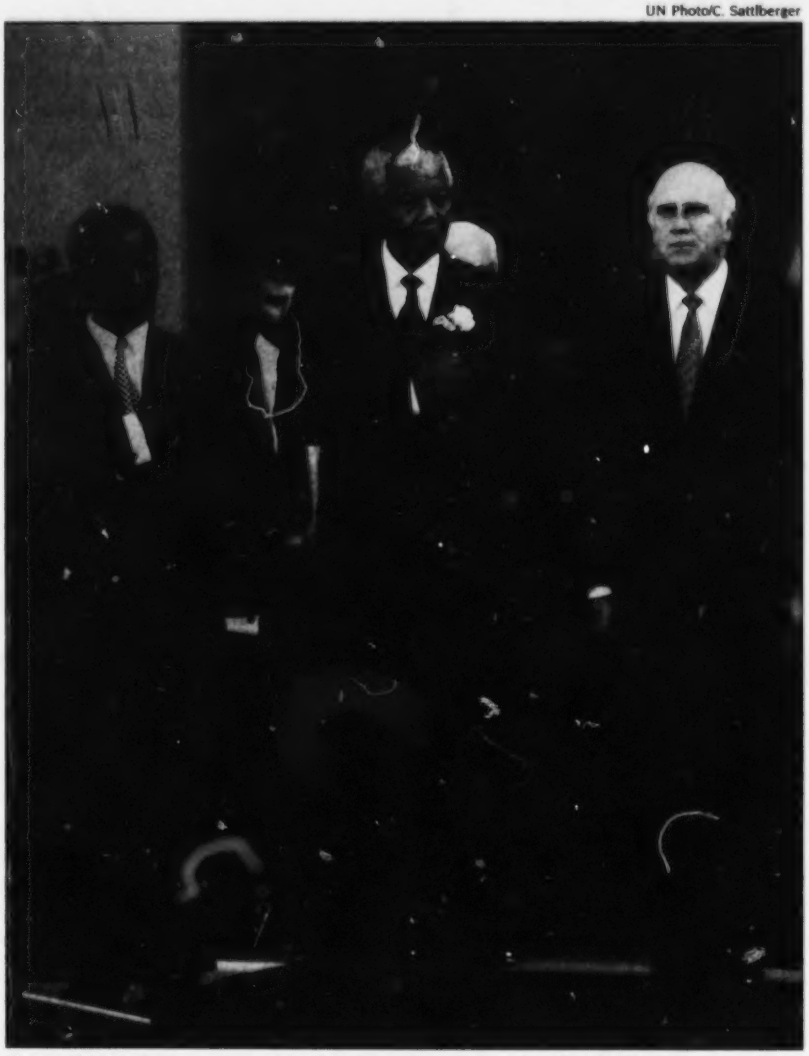
"Today, we have been privileged to witness a turning-point in the history of a nation. Today, South Africa regains its rightful place in Africa, in the United Nations and in the family of nations", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in congratulating Nelson Mandela on his inauguration as State President of the Republic of South Africa on 10 May. The Pretoria ceremony followed South Africa's first non-racial and democratic elections, held from 26 to 29 April, which resulted in victories for former political prisoner Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC).

The UN Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA)—the largest electoral observer mission yet mounted by the UN—had deployed 2,527 personnel throughout the country to observe the elections, which were declared sufficiently free and fair by Judge Johan Kriegler, Chairman of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC).

Voter turnout was estimated at 86 per cent of the 23 million eligible voters. Approximately 300,000 South Africans living abroad voted in the country of their residence. The Electoral Assistance Unit of the UN provided observers for 120 polling stations in 57 countries.

The new, six-colour flag of South Africa—with its horizontal bands of black, gold, green, white, blue and red—was

UN Photo/C. Sattlberger



Nelson Mandela *(centre)* at a pre-inaugural ceremony, with his Vice Presidents-elect Thabo Mbeki *(left)* and F. W. de Klerk *(right)*.

unfurled for the first time at UN Headquarters on 27 April, in a ceremony attended by the country's Permanent Representative to the UN and representatives of the ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC).

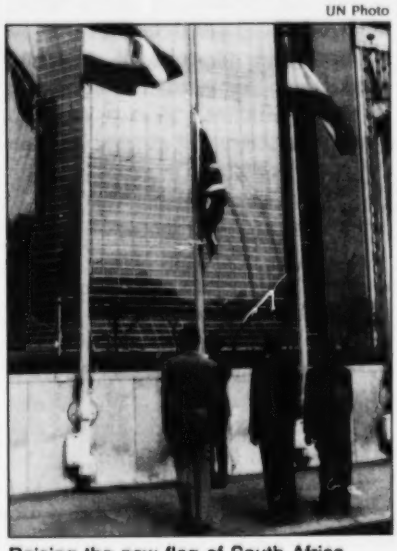
With the conclusion of the elections and the hoisting of the new flag at midnight on 27 April, South Africa's first non-racial and democratic constitution entered into force, ending 46 years of apartheid—the system of institutionalized racial segregation which favoured the white minority over the non-white majority.

Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria, Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, extended to all South Africans and their political leaders heartfelt congratulations and warmest wishes for "the peaceful and stable development of a new South Africa".

The UN had spearheaded the international campaign against apartheid, initiating and supporting programmes aimed at alleviating the suffering of its victims. It had also provided a forum for the representatives of South African organizations, such as the ANC, to advance the anti-apartheid campaign.

During May and June, South Africa began to rejoin the UN bodies from which it had been barred for its racial policies. In a historic meeting on 23 June, South Africa took its place once again in the General Assembly to a round of applause, when the Assembly, in adopting resolution 48/13 C, accepted—after refusing for 24 years—the credentials of the new Government's delegation. Also, by adopting resolutions 48/258 A and B, the Assembly terminated the mandate of the Special Committee and discontinued the UN Trust Fund for South Africa, since their mandates had been fulfilled.

UN Photo



Raising the new flag of South Africa on 27 April.

UN Photo 185397[illegible] Bu

South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo taking his seat in the General Assembly on 23 June.

Alfred Nzo, South Africa's Minister for Foreign Affairs, said his country's "long night of diplomatic isolation" had finally come to an end.

On 2 May, the World Health Organization (WHO) restored South Africa's full membership with immediate effect. South Africa had lost its voting privileges as a result of a resolution adopted by the seventeenth World Health Assembly in 1964, which considered that "apartheid officially raised to the status of a political system by a Government represents an exceptional circumstance of failure to adhere to the humanitarian principles governing the WHO".

On 27 May, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) announced that it would terminate its 30-year campaign against apartheid and aid the social and economic recovery of the new democracy. In its June session, ILO was due to formally rescind the Declaration concerning Action against Apartheid, which its Governing Body had suspended in November 1993.

In June, the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) also suspended, with immediate effect, the further implementation of its Assembly decision limiting the participation of South Africa in ICAO meetings and the receipt by South Africa of ICAO documentation.

Rejoining the world community

On 25 May—Africa Day—the Security Council lifted the mandatory arms embargo and other restrictions against South Africa, which it had imposed on 4 November 1977 through its resolution 418 (1977). In unanimously adopting resolution 919 (1994), the Council stressed the urgent need to facilitate South Africa's reintegration into the international community. It welcomed the recent all-race multi-party election and the establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South African Government. The Council also dissolved its Committee on the question of South Africa.

"The victory that has been won in South Africa belongs as much to the people of our country as to this Organization and the peoples of the world", said South Africa's First Executive Deputy President, Thabo Mbeki, to the Council. South Africa was now recognized as a democratic country; it was committed to being a good citizen of the world, and could be counted on to adhere to the pursuit

With patience, joy and quiet dedication . . .

By Jery Kilker

We are impressed with the quiet dedication given by so many South Africans, black and white, to the entire election process. Parties, employers and independent groups offered education and training for persons who, in many cases, had never held a pencil, let alone been invited to choose a political representative or party. Others, from many social positions, offered time and skills, frequently as volunteers or as election officials.

In Ellisras, the town in the northern Transvaal where I was assigned as a UN observer for the UN Mission in South Africa, a mobile voting station manager was hospitalized with pneumonia one day before the polls opened; his wife immediately took over his responsibilities with little preparation and to excellent effect.

All accounts have noted the patience and joy of the voters, the long lines in often beating rain or searing sun, the sometimes inadequate supplies that led to awkward moments. There has been little violence reported lately, and absolutely none in our district. My most vivid memory is of the mobile site at Elmeston, 35 kilometres south of Ellisras on route R510. The mobile team set up its station on a wide, grassy shoulder beside the highway. The ballot box is inspected and sealed under the watchful eyes of the electoral team manager, police officers, and two international observers.

A small crowd of voters waits patiently and helps several old people to the head of the line; we all estimate that the man resting on his crutch is in his 90s.

A donkey cart moves cautiously along the edge of the highway, the

Mr. Kilker in South Africa

reigns held by a solemn young boy. In the back, bent with age, hard work and disease, lies an old woman. Her face is serene. She is proudly and carefully dressed in her finest blue gown, and her head is covered with a gaily-coloured green, orange and red bandanna.

Many hands reach out to carefully lift her from the cart and carry her close to the head of the line.

She is too bent to stand or even sit in a chair and is laid gently on the ground. When her time comes to vote, several officials and friends kneel where she rests to show and explain the ballot paper. She makes a choice and the paper is marked.

Mrs. Seikgosa Emmit Seromula, born (according to her old-fashioned, tattered identity card) on 1 April 1910, has voted for the first time in her life.

The same hands then gently lift her to the back of the donkey cart and the young man slowly drives away, turning onto the dirt road leading into the red, dusty hills.

This may be Mrs. Seromula's last vote, but the next time or the time after that, the solemn young driver will have his chance.

Mr. Kilker, a former WHO official, served with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia, then with UNOMSA.

of important goals of international peace and security, he added.

Mr. Mbeki, at a 26 May press conference, said South Africa was expected to retake its General Assembly seat in late June. The Special Committee would be visiting the country in early June and could be expected to report that the purpose for which the Committee was established had been realized and that it would recommend the restoration of South Africa's credentials. [On 12 November 1974, a procedural decision of the Assembly had resulted in the suspension of South Africa's participation in Assembly work.]

Other developments

Before the election, the Security Council welcomed on 19 April the agreement reached that day between the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), the ANC and the Government of South Africa, following which the IFP decided to participate in the elections. In a statement by the Council President, its members said they hoped that the agreement would end the violence that had scarred South Africa and that it would promote lasting reconciliation among its people.

The Council also commended the positive contribution by UNOMSA and the international community to the transitional process in South Africa and reiterated its determination to support the process of peaceful democratic change for the benefit of all South Africans.

In a 14 April report *(S/1994/435)* on the progress of UNOMSA's work, the Secretary-General highlighted preparations for the elections and the Mission's activities to monitor violence and defuse tensions.

He reported that the Transitional Executive Council (TEC), the IEC, the Independent Media Commission (IMC) and the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) had all become operational and were pressing ahead with their tasks. The major problem before them was non-participation of some political parties on the grounds that the interim Constitution was

unacceptable to them. The Secretary-General reported on attempts made to ensure participation of those parties which formed the Freedom Alliance (particularly the IFP and the white, right-wing parties) in the transitional process and the April elections.

The number of political fatalities had declined, from a national monthly average of 366 in 1993 to 286 in early 1994. However, there was still an average of 10 deaths a day, many of them women and children.

Recent peace initiatives had reduced the death toll in Pretoria, Witwatersrand and Vaal from 142 in January to 69 in February, it was reported. In the East Rand, months of arson and bloodshed had subsided with the deployment of the South African Defence Force (SADF) to work with the South African Police.

Political fatalities in Natal/Kwazulu were much higher than anywhere else in the country and had averaged 161 per month. Disturbances in the townships of Umlazi and KwaMashu, just outside Durban, which had been centres of major IFP-ANC conflict, had caused the displacement of families and were deterring workers from travelling to work. Fear that IFP would ultimately go for an all-out disruption of the elections had increased the likelihood of even higher levels of violence.

UNOMSA teams had continued to follow rallies and other public events, investigated instances of intimidation and worked closely with national peace structures and with regional and local peace committees. However, the lack of commitment on the part of political parties had caused many of the peace committees to become "dysfunctional" or even defunct.

UNOMSA observers at a pre-election rally.

UNOMSA's Public Information and Media Analysis Section monitored the major press in English and Afrikaans. Activities of major political parties were reflected in a reasonably objective and generous fashion by the media in South Africa. In all, the print media was lively with electoral columns, editorials, supplements and voter education materials, and within recognized constraints, it could be considered fair, UNOMSA reported.

Eager to vote

UNOMSA had evaluated the adequacy of the voter education coverage in terms of both substantive information imparted to the potential electorate and geographical coverage. There had been a growing number of reports about voter intimidation. Voter education campaigns were to give additional emphasis to convincing people that votes would be kept secret.

Special Committee Chairman Gambari, reporting *(A/48/921-S/1994/383)* on a mission to South Africa from 28 February to 6 March, said the majority of South Africans were eager to participate in the first ever multiracial elections in the country. Despite this enthusiasm, concern was still expressed over the political intolerance which had resulted in persistent violence across the country, in particular in Natal and the East Rand.

Decisive action

The decisive action by white and black government forces on behalf of civil order appeared to have weakened the resistance to multiracial elections, as well as split the radical white separatist groups and isolated IFP and its Chairman, Chief Buthelezi.

A problematic issue concerned identity cards or other voting documentation. Although prospective voters might number between 18 million and 23 million, it appeared that only half of the voters were adequately documented. It was unclear how the remaining 9 million to 12 million people could receive proper documents before the elections.

UNOMSA recommended that the international community should not respond to calls for postponement of

UN Photo/C. Sattlberger

Voters cast ballots for the first time.

the elections, as advocated by parties not firmly committed to non-racial and democratic elections. Such a postponement, no matter how brief, was unlikely to ensure the participation of all organizations in South Africa, and would lead to an intensification of violence. Furthermore, any deferral would have serious financial implications at a time when there were clear signs of contribution fatigue by the international community, he reported.

In his 16 June report on the question of South Africa *(S/1994/717)*, the Secretary-General said its first democratic elections had been "truly historic". The UN, through UNOMSA, had reaped a wealth of experience. Its achievements, as well as its mistakes and shortcomings, would be recalled when similar missions were planned in future.

As an exercise in preventive diplomacy, drawing on the strengths of several international organizations to support indigenous efforts towards peace and national reconciliation, the international community's efforts in South Africa since 1992 offered a unique and positive demonstration of the benefits of such cooperation.

The IEC had succeeded in delivering an election against colossal odds and deserved to be congratulated, the Secretary-General stated. The performance of the electoral machinery had not been perfect, as the Commission itself had been the first to admit. Fortunately, the perseverance and spirit of compromise that prevailed in the negotiations had been sustained. The political parties had demonstrated remarkable maturity and responsibility, thus helping to achieve an overall acceptable, creditable result. That was one of the great lessons to be drawn from the whole process of change in South Africa. Throughout the transitional process, its political leaders had stayed the course, reaching deep into their own reserves of energy and imagination to overcome each stumbling block in their path. For that, they deserved admiration and continued support.

In its report of 14 June *(A/48/22/Add.1-S/26714/Add.1)*, the Special Committee stated that the elections had been held under markedly difficult circumstances, largely owing to the very short time available to the IEC to make the necessary arrangements.

While not flawless, South Africa's first non-racial and democratic elections were sufficiently free and fair. According to the heads of the international observer missions in South Africa, including that of the UN, the people of South Africa had expressed their determination to create a peaceful, non-racial and democratic nation.

The socio-economic disparities caused by apartheid needed to be urgently addressed to ensure the stable and peaceful development of post-apartheid South Africa, and assistance from the international community would be vital, according to the report. ■

AP/Wide World Photo

Black and white South Africans wait to cast their votes.

Apartheid Committee concludes work

The system of apartheid had been brought to an end, and the Special Committee against Apartheid had fulfilled its mandate and successfully concluded its work, according to the Committee's draft report to the General Assembly, which it adopted on 14 June.

In taking that action, the Committee, established by the General Assembly on 6 November 1962 *(resolution 1761 (XVII))*, to review all aspects of South Africa's apartheid policies and their international repercussions, concluded its final open meeting.

Among the report's recommendations was that the Assembly should appoint a high-level coordinator for all UN development activities in South Africa for the next five years, coinciding with the tenure of the Government of National Unity.

Committee Chairman Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria, reporting on the Committee's most recent mission to South Africa from 6 to 10 June, said there had been serious discussions with South African authorities on the needs of the country for development assistance to overcome the legacy of apartheid.

Stressing that the events in South Africa were, first of all, a victory for South Africans of all races, the final report stated that the UN, the Special Committee and the international community at large could take just pride in their contribution over several decades to the efforts in eliminating apartheid and in their support to all South Africans who had courageously struggled against apartheid and suffered from it.

The UN and Apartheid

A Chronology

Apartheid—an Afrikaans word meaning separateness—was the State system of institutionalized racial segregation and discrimination adopted by the South African Government in 1948 as an official policy until early 1990, when the Government committed itself to ending apartheid and establishing a non-racial and democratic system of government.

Under apartheid, South Africa's population was divided into separate groups according to colour—Black (African), White (European), Coloured and Indian. Black South Africans—some 73 per cent of the country's population—were systematically denied fundamental rights and liberties, not allowed to participate in the political life of the country, and subject to repressive laws and regulations.

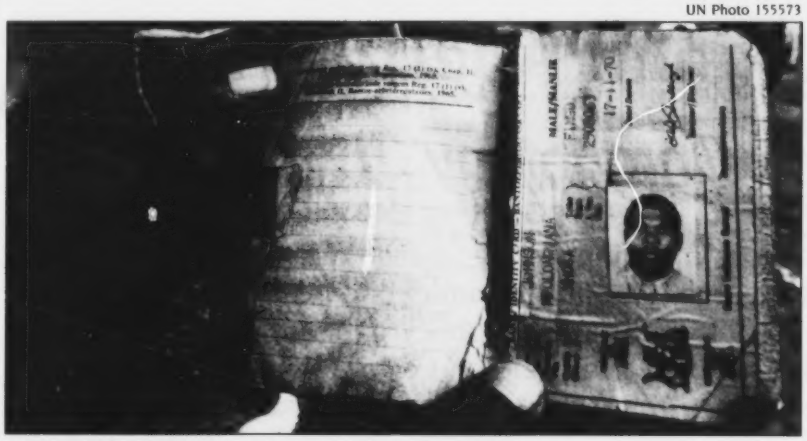
This strictly observed segregation was regulated and enforced through a number of laws, chief among them being the Population Registration Act of 1950, under which racial categories were defined, a population register was compiled, and "identity cards" were issued. South Africa was divided into a White area and African reserves. Within the White urban areas, the Group Areas Act of 1950 was used to divide the non-White population into different residential areas—Coloured, Indian, Black—while the African population was further divided on an "ethnic" basis within the townships set aside for them.

There were ten reserves called "bantustans" (or the so-called "homelands") assigned to Africans, one for each of the "national units" of the African population as defined under the apartheid system. These were scattered into 81 separate and non-contiguous pieces of land. Although Africans outnumbered Whites by more than 4 to 1, these reserves constituted only 13 per cent of the land in South Africa and contained some of the most arid and infertile areas.

UN Photo 177913/H. Vassal

"Separateness"—Apartheid meant an official line between whites and blacks.

UN Photo 155573



Identity passes based on colour were a legal requirement.

UN involvement: Since 1946

Both the UN General Assembly and the Security Council have repeatedly declared apartheid incompatible with the UN Charter. The Assembly condemned apartheid as a crime against humanity. The Council termed it a crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind, and a threat to international peace and security. Over the years, UN organs agreed on a wide range of actions that could help end apartheid.

The question of South Africa's racial policies was first brought before the Assembly in 1946, when India complained that the Government had enacted legislation discriminating against South Africans of Indian origin. The wider question of racial conflict arising from South Africa's apartheid policies was placed on the Assembly's agenda in 1952. From 1962 to 1992, the Assembly considered both questions under the agenda item entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa".

During the 1950s, the Assembly made repeated appeals to South Africa to abandon its apartheid policies in light of the principles of both the UN Charter and the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. South Africa, however, viewing the Assembly's decisions as illegal and unacceptable and in violation of the principle of non-interference in its internal affairs, consistently rejected the Assembly appeals and resolutions.

In 1961, in resolution 1598 (XV), the Assembly for the first time defined apartheid as a danger to international peace and security. Beginning in 1961, it asked States to consider taking a broad range of separate and collective actions to influence South Africa to abandon its racial policies. It called on States to: end diplomatic relations with the South African Government; close ports to all South African flag vessels; prohibit ships from entering its ports; boycott all its goods; ban exports to South Africa; refuse landing and passage facilities to all aircraft belonging to the Government and companies registered under South African laws; and called for a voluntary embargo on the supply of petroleum, petroleum products and strategic raw materials to the country. From 1962 through 1988, the Assembly repeatedly urged the Security Council to impose mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

Special Committee: The UN focal point

In 1962, following the declaration of a state of emergency in South Africa and the suppression of protests, the General Assembly, in adopting resolution 1761 (XVII) on 6 November, established the Special Committee against Apartheid, to keep the Government's racial policies under constant review and report to the Assembly and the Security Council as appropriate.

The Special Committee became the focal point in the efforts of the international community to promote and monitor a comprehensive programme of action against apartheid and encourage support and assistance to South Africans and their liberation movements.

From 1965 through 1973, the credentials of the South African delegation were given specific consideration by the Assembly. However, it was not until 1974 that the Assembly, in resolution 3206 (XXIX), approving the report of its Credentials Committee, decided it would accept the credentials of representatives of Member States "with the exception of the credentials of the representatives of South Africa".

At the same meeting, on 30 September 1974, it called on the Security Council to review the relationship between the UN and South Africa *(resolution 3207 (XXIX))*. Meeting on 30 October, the Council was unable to adopt a resolution on this subject.

In his ruling of 12 November 1974, General Assembly President Abdelaziz Bouteflika of Algeria noted the consistency over the years with which the Assembly had refused to accept the credentials of the South African delegation, and stated that it "is tantamount to saying in explicit terms that the General Assembly refuses to allow the delegation of South Africa to participate in its work". This ruling was upheld by the Assembly by a vote of 91 to 22, with 19 abstentions. From that time, South Africa did not participate in the proceedings of the Assembly.

Also in 1974, the Assembly recommended that the South African regime be totally excluded from participation in all international organizations and conferences held under UN auspices for so long as it continued to practise apartheid. However, a proposal made to the Council in 1974 to immediately expel South Africa from the UN did not receive the necessary majority.

South Africa's establishment of "bantustans" or "separate homelands"

for its African population was first condemned by the Assembly in 1970, which called their creation "fraudulent, a violation of the principle of self-determination and prejudicial to the territorial integrity of the State and the unity of its people". Subsequently, the Assembly condemned the proclamation of "independence" of four of these "homelands"—the Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei.

In 1984, the South African Government sought to introduce a "new constitution" through the holding of "elections" for segregated chambers for the so-called "coloured people" and people of Asian origin. The Assembly rejected the validity and relevance of the "new constitution" and the "elections", and declared them null and void.

Liberation movements: a legitimate struggle

Over the years, UN bodies, particularly the General Assembly, have adopted a wide range of measures aimed at providing political, moral and material support for the South African liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU)—the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC).

The Assembly has recognized the "legitimacy of the struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa" in pursuing their human and political rights. The Assembly subsequently declared that the people have an inalienable right to use all available and appropriate means, including armed struggle.

The Assembly has appealed regularly for assistance to the South African people and their liberation movements, and has invited representatives of ANC and PAC to participate as observers in debates relating to the question of South Africa.

With regard to political prisoners, the General Assembly has on several occasions appealed for the liberation of all persons imprisoned or subjected to other restrictions for having opposed apartheid. It has condemned the torture and killings of detainees and, in specific cases, executions of persons for activities carried out in the struggle against apartheid, and has demanded prisoner-of-war treatment for freedom fighters.

Conventions and Declarations

The General Assembly in 1963 adopted the UN Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. In 1973, it adopted the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, and also declared apartheid "a crime against humanity". The Assembly in 1977 adopted the International Declaration against Apartheid in Sports and in 1985 the International Convention against Apartheid in Sports.

Oil embargo

On 12 December 1979, the General Assembly adopted resolution 34/93 F, putting in place an embargo against South Africa, by requesting all States to enact legislation prohibiting the sale and supply of petroleum and petroleum products to that country. In 1986, the Assembly called upon all States to broaden the scope of the oil embargo and established the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa.

A change on the horizon

During 1989, improvements in the international climate facilitating the peaceful resolution of conflicts were manifested in the southern Africa region by agreements that led to the independence of Namibia. Within South Africa, renewed demands by anti-apartheid organizations for a negotiated end to apartheid and a new constitutional order coincided with a change of thinking within the ruling party of the country towards a new policy which acknowledged the failure of apartheid and the need for constitutional change.

At its sixteenth special session, on 14 December 1989, the General Assembly adopted by consensus the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa. By that text, the people of South Africa were encouraged to join together to negotiate an end to the apartheid system and agree on measures necessary to transform their country into a non-racial democracy.

UN Photo 151608

A Johannesburg bus stop, 1982.

The Declaration dealt with fundamental principles for a new constitutional order, with the creation of a climate for negotiations, guidelines for the process of negotiations, and a programme of action in pursuance of the Declaration's objectives.

Significant steps to dismantle the apartheid system were taken by the South African Government since 1990, including: the lifting of the ban on ANC, PAC, the South African Communist Party and other political organizations; the unconditional release of political leaders, including ANC President Nelson Mandela, imprisoned by the regime for more than 27 years; the release of a large number of political prisoners; the granting of immunity for political offenses to South Africans, both inside and outside the country; and an agreement with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to allow the return of exiles and refugees to South Africa.

UN Photo

Over the years, thousands of protests were organized against the evils of apartheid.

Goldstone Commission, CODESA

The Government also repealed the most important apartheid legislation and entered into a National Peace Accord in 1991 with major political parties and organizations, aimed at promoting peace and reconciliation in violence-stricken communities and the country as a whole. A Commission of Inquiry regarding the Prevention of Public Violence and Intimidation, known as the Goldstone Commission —named after its Chairman, Justice Richard Goldstone—was also set up in terms of the Accord.

Beginning in December 1991, the Government launched a negotiating process with the parties concerned—first through the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) and subsequently through the broader-based Multi-party Negotiating Forum.

They reached agreement on constitutional principles, political participation and the role of the international community, transitional arrangements and the time frame for the implementation of decisions leading to the holding of free, democratic and non-racial elections, and the adoption of a new constitution.

The negotiating process embarked upon by the parties culminated in a series of agreements reached during the second half of 1993. Among these was a set of binding constitutional principles for a democratic government, including a bill of fundamental human rights and an independent judiciary, as well as a decision that non-racial democratic elections leading to an interim parliament/constituent assembly would be held on 26 April 1994. On 23 September, the South African Parliament passed a bill to establish the Transitional Executive Council (TEC) to oversee government operations and the preparations for the elections, with a view to ensuring that these would be free and fair. Bills were also passed enabling the Independent Media and Electoral Commissions and the Independent Broadcasting Authority to be set up. The TEC began its work on 7 December and the South African Parliament, in its last meeting on 22 December 1993, adopted a Constitution for the Transition Period, which will come into effect on 27 April 1994.

The interim constitution guarantees fundamental human rights, limits the president's power to declare a state of emergency, abolishes the homelands and divides the country into nine provinces. It also provides *inter alia* that a government of national unity responsible to the National Parliament (interim parliament/constituent assembly) will be established following elections in April 1994 and will continue until 1999, when national elections under a permanent constitution will be held. A constitutional court will have authority to resolve disputes of interpretation of constitutional provisions during the transition period between different levels of government.

Since 1990, the General Assembly has responded to these developments by calling for support for the process of political change and has emphasized the responsibilities of all political and other relevant parties in the country to bring about a peaceful transition to a non-racial South Africa. At its forty-eighth session, the Assembly amended the title of its agenda item on South Africa to "Elimination of apartheid and establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa".

Following an appeal by Mr. Mandela on 24 September 1993 in the Assembly Hall for the lifting of sanctions against South Africa and the subsequent decision on 29 September by the Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa of the OAU to call upon the international community at large, and the UN in particular, to respond positively to that appeal, the Assembly

adopted by consensus on 8 October the first resolution *(48/1)* of its session, deciding to lift all economic sanctions against South Africa with immediate effect, and the oil embargo as of the date when the TEC became operational.

After the TEC had met on 7 December 1993, the General Assembly was informed on 9 December by its President that the oil embargo was officially ended.

Broad-based support

The Assembly further underscored its broad-based support for the political process underway in South Africa, by adopting by consensus for the fourth year an omnibus resolution *(48/159 A)* entitled "International efforts towards the total eradication of apartheid and support for the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa". Among other things, the Assembly: strongly urged the South African authorities to exercise the primary responsibility of government to bring to an end the ongoing violence; urged all parties in South Africa, including those which did not participate fully in the multiparty talks, to respect agreements reached during the negotiations, recommit themselves to democratic principles, take part in the elections and resolve outstanding issues by peaceful means; requested the Secretary-General to accelerate planning for a UN role in the election process; and strongly urged the international community to assist the people of South Africa in the economic reconstruction of their country and ensure that the new South Africa began its existence on a firm economic basis.

In other texts, the Assembly terminated the mandate of the Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa *(48/159 C)*, called for continued humanitarian and legal assistance to victims of repression and former political prisoners *(48/159 D)*, and welcomed the expanding educational and training activities inside South Africa of the UN Educational and Training Programme for South Africa *(48/160)*.

UN Photo 155272/Allan Tannenbaum

The blacks were segregated into poor shanty towns, such as Crossroads near Cape Town *(above)*.

Security Council action

The Security Council first considered the situation in South Africa in 1960, in response to the 21 March Sharpeville massacre in which 69 unarmed anti-apartheid demonstrators were killed. In this connection, the Council first called upon South Africa to abandon its apartheid policy. The Secretary-General visited the country in 1961 for talks with the Government, but no mutually acceptable arrangement was found.

In resolutions 181 (1963) and 182 (1963), the Council considered that the situation in South Africa was seriously disturbing international peace and security, and instituted a voluntary embargo against the supply of arms to the country, calling on States to cease the sale and shipment of arms, ammunition, military vehicles, as well as equipment and materials for the manufacture and maintenance of arms and ammunition to South Africa.

After the failure of a first attempt in June 1975 by African States to make the arms embargo mandatory, the Council imposed a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa on 4 November 1977 by adopting resolution 418 (1977). It unanimously decided that all States would cease forthwith any provision to South Africa of arms and related materials of all types, including the sale or transfer of weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary police equipment and spare parts for them, and also cease the provision of all types of equipment and supplies, and grants of licensing arrangements for their manufacture.

Gravely concerned that South Africa was at the "threshold of producing nuclear weapons", the Council also decided that all States should refrain from any cooperation with that country in the manufacture and development of such weapons. The Council also established a Committee to monitor the implementation of the mandatory arms embargo by adopting resolution 421 (1977).

Between 1960 and 1988, the Security Council adopted 25 resolutions on the question of South Africa, among which it: recognized the legitimacy of the struggle of the South African people for the elimination of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic society; called for the release of all political prisoners and the commutation of death sentences imposed on them; rejected the division of the country into "bantustans"; declared as null and void the so-called "new Constitution" imposed by the Government

in 1984; and demanded that South Africa stop its military aggression and destabilization of neighbouring African States.

In adopting resolution 569 (1985), the Council urged Member States to suspend all new investment in South Africa, prohibit the sale of coins minted in South Africa, restrict sports and cultural relations, suspend guaranteed export loans, and prohibit all sales of computer equipment that could be used by the South African army and police.

Subsequent to the adoption by the General Assembly on 14 December 1989 of the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa *(S-16/1)*, the Council resumed its consideration of the question in July 1992. The Council, gravely concerned by the consequences of the escalating violence on the political process underway in South Africa, unanimously adopted resolutions 765 (1992) on 16 July and 772 (1992) on 17 August, in which it emphasized the greater involvement of the international community in facilitating the transition to a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa. The importance of such an involvement was further underscored by the appointment and subsequent missions of Special Envoys dispatched to South Africa by the Secretary-General and by the establishment of the UN Observer Mission to South Africa (UNOMSA) in September 1992.

In addition, the Secretary-General designated two Special Envoys to carry out separate fact-finding missions in 1992 to South Africa: Virendra Dayal (16-27 September), and Tom Vraalsen (22 November-9 December).

In reporting *(S/25004)* to the Security Council on 22 December 1992, the Secretary-General called on all parties to recognize that continued uncertainty over the country's future would only lead to further violence, instability and economic decline. He underlined that the principle of inclusiveness must be recognized as essential for a transition to democratic rule through free elections and new constitutional arrangements. Furthermore, the Secretary-General called on all political leaders to take immediate action to curb violence, while recognizing that the South African Government had primary responsibility for the maintenance of law and order.

In response to an unprecedented upsurge in violence especially in the area of the East Rand, during July and August 1993, the Council President on 24 August issued a statement on behalf of its members calling on all parties in South Africa to assist the Government in preventing opponents of democracy from using violence to threaten the country's democratic transition.

In that regard, the Council noted the proposal for a national peace force to restore and maintain order in volatile areas. It underlined that any such force must be genuinely representative of South African society and its major political bodies and, just as importantly, that it must have the confidence, support and cooperation of its people.

On 23 September 1993, the Secretary-General met in New York with South African President F. W. de Klerk, congratulating him on the historic decision adopted by the Parliament on the establishment of the Transitional Executive Council and assuring him that UNOMSA would be strengthened before the April 1994 elections.

Taking into account the progress in the multi-party negotiations, the Security Council in 1993 authorized two increases in the number of observers—to a total of 100—who would provide a nucleus for the UN element in the electoral process in South Africa.

On 23 November, the Council President issued a statement welcoming the successful completion of the multi-party negotiating process and the conclusion of agreements reached on an interim constitution and electoral bill.

On 16 December, the Council approved the appointment of Lakhdar Brahimi as the Secretary-General's Special Representative for South Africa, to assist in implementing relevant Council resolutions and decisions concerning South Africa and to coordinate the activities of other international observers.

The Special Representative joined a survey team in a visit to South Africa from 16 to 23 December. Consultations took place with the Government, political parties, representatives of the transitional institutions, other intergovernmental observer missions, officials of the national peace structures, the Chairman of the Frontline States, and the diplomatic community in South Africa.

In his report of 10 January 1994 *(A/48/845-S/1994/16)*, the Secretary-General outlined for the Security Council the legal framework for the electoral process and for the observation of the elections, proposed an expanded mandate for UNOMSA, and described the operational approach to be utilized for the observation of the elections, coordination and cooperation with other observer missions, and the resource requirements and organizational structure required under UNOMSA's expanded mandate. ■

'We stood together'

"The United Nations raised its flag against the evil of apartheid. The world joined against it. Repeatedly, the nations and the peoples of the international community expressed their solidarity and support for the people of South Africa. We demonstrate that solidarity again, by our presence, by your presence today. Today's celebrations truly belong to all South Africans, whatever their party or affiliation. I pay tribute to all who had the vision to lead. I pay tribute to all who had the courage to join in this undertaking. I pay tribute to the international organizations and the Member States who contributed and who stood together with you."

Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali
10 May 1994, South Africa

Massacres, 'mindless violence and carnage' rage in Rwanda

Council expands UNAMIR mandate, imposes arms embargo

UNHCR Photo 24067/P. Moumtzis

Fleeing ethnic violence, an estimated 250,000 Rwandese swept into the United Republic of Tanzania over a 24-hour period, the largest and fastest refugee exodus ever witnessed by UNHCR.

The Security Council continued to deal with what it called a situation of "mindless violence and carnage" in Rwanda, in the face of continued fighting, widespread massacres of civilians and a deteriorating humanitarian situation.

On 21 April, the Council adjusted the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) to act as an intermediary between the parties, assist in the resumption of humanitarian relief operations, and monitor and report on developments. It authorized a force level of approximately 270, down from the original 2,539.

On 17 May, the Council increased UNAMIR's strength to up to 5,500 troops, expanded its mandate to include responsibility for the security and protection of civilians and of humanitarian operations, and imposed an arms embargo on Rwanda. On 8 June, it extended UNAMIR's expanded mandate from 29 July until 9 December 1994.

Since securing and equipping the required troops would take some time, the Council on 22 June, acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, authorized Member States to set up a temporary multinational operation to contribute to the security and protection of displaced persons, refugees and civilians at risk.

The Council took that action by adopting resolution 929 (1994) by a vote of 10 to none, with 5 abstentions (Brazil, China, New Zealand, Nigeria and Pakistan). Stressing the strictly humanitarian character of the operation, the Council decided that such a mission, as proposed and led by France, would be limited to two months, unless the Secretary-General determined earlier that the expanded UNAMIR was able to carry out its mandate. This led to the establishment of Operation Turquoise and

UNHCR Photo 24070/P. Moumtzis

Mutilations were common.

the Humanitarian Protection Zone in the southeastern part of Rwanda.

The Council asked the Secretary-General to report no later than 9 August on progress made towards UNAMIR's deployment and the resumption of the peace process under the August 1993 Arusha Peace Agreement. The Council also requested Member States, cooperating with the Secretary-General, to coordinate closely with UNAMIR; it further requested the Secretary-General to set up appropriate mechanisms to that end.

Following the vote, France said that its initiative had a solely humanitarian goal. France would not interpose its forces between the warring parties, nor seek to influence the outcome of the conflict, and further, it was not its intention to replace UNAMIR.

In a 19 June letter to the Council *(S/1994/728)*, the Secretary-General had stated that with the Member States' failure to promptly provide the expanded UNAMIR with the necessary resources, the Council might wish to consider France's offer to undertake a French-commanded multinational force, operating under Chapter VII. In a 20 June letter *(S/1994/734)*, France stated that its Government and Senegal were prepared to send a force into Rwanda without delay, "so as to maintain a presence pending the arrival of the expanded UNAMIR". Other Member States that might join the operation were being contacted. The force objectives would be the same as those of UNAMIR, but "excludes any interference in the development of the balance of military forces between the parties involved in the conflict".

Multinational force has precedent

The Secretary-General, in his 19 June letter, stated that the multinational operation had a precedent in the United States-led Unified Task Force in Somalia (UNITAF), deployed in December 1992. If the Council decided to authorize such an operation, Governments should commit themselves to maintaining their troops in Rwanda until UNAMIR could take over from the multinational force, which must create conditions for UNAMIR to carry out its mandate.

The force commanders of the operation and of UNAMIR would closely coordinate their activities. UNAMIR would continue to fulfil its mandated responsibilities in and around the capital city of Kigali and the airport, and provide support for delivery of humanitarian aid. If the security of its personnel was jeopardized, the Secretary-General said, he would immediately reassess the situation and make appropriate recommendations to the Council.

Considering the difficulties faced in securing resources for UNAMIR, the Secretary-General believed it might take three months before the Mission could fully undertake its expanded mandate. As the killing of innocent civilians had continued and the overall situation had deteriorated, additional troops could only be deployed when they were properly equipped.

None of the Governments possessing the necessary capacity had offered to provide fully trained and equipped military units, he noted, and most offers had been conditional in some way. Optimally, deployment of the first phase of UNAMIR could take place in the first week of July.

Resolution 912: UNAMIR mandate adjusted

In adopting resolution 912 (1994) on 21 April, the Council, while adjusting UNAMIR's mandate, also demanded an immediate cessation of hostilities between the forces of the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF), and an end to the "mindless violence and carnage" engulfing Rwanda. It regretted the tragic incident in which the Presidents of Rwanda and Burundi lost their lives, and the ensuing violence which had claimed the lives of the Prime Minister, cabinet ministers, government officials and thousands of civilians.

The Council reaffirmed that the Arusha Peace Agreement remained the only viable framework for the resolution of the Rwanda conflict and served as the basis for peace, national unity and reconciliation.

On 20 April, the Secretary-General reported *(S/1994/470)* that due to recent events in Rwanda, particularly the widespread killings in Kigali, it had become impossible for UNAMIR to continue its current mandated tasks.

Despite direct contacts between the Government forces and the RPF on 15 April under UNAMIR auspices, the Secretary-General had concluded that

UNHCR Photo 24072/P. Moumtzis

Misery was rampant.

there was no immediate prospect of a cease-fire.

On 14 April, he proposed two broad alternatives for dealing with the situation, both predicated on establishing a cease-fire: to retain UNAMIR at a reduced strength for three to four weeks following a cease-fire; or following a cease-fire, withdraw the bulk of UNAMIR, leaving the Secretary-General's Special Representative and the Force Commander in Kigali to act as intermediaries for political negotiations for an indefinite period.

He also presented three other options, based on the "realities of the current situation": to have a small group headed by the Force Commander remain in Kigali to act as an intermediary and attempt to bring about a cease-fire; an immediate and massive reinforcement of UNAMIR and a mandate change, so that it would be equipped and authorized to coerce the opposing forces into a cease-fire and restore law and order; or complete withdrawal of UNAMIR.

With the departure of the Belgian contingent and non-essential personnel from other contingents, the reduced military strength of UNAMIR on 20 April stood at 1,515, down from 2,165; and its military observers at 190, down from 321.

On 30 April, the Council, after receiving reports of further deterioration in the situation in Rwanda, appealed to all States to refrain from providing arms or any military assistance to the parties to the conflict. The Council also asked the Secretary-General to consult with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on actions to assist in the restoration of law and order and provide security for displaced persons.

The Secretary-General on 3 May reported that he had personally spoken to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, current Chairman of the OAU, and had sent messages to a number of African countries which had contributed troops to UN military operations, requesting them to contribute troops to a regional effort to restore law and order in Rwanda.

Further massacres expected

The Secretary-General informed the Council, in a letter of 29 April *(S/1994/518)*, that Kigali was effectively divided into sectors controlled by the Rwanda Government Forces (RGF) and the RPF, respectively, with frequent exchanges of artillery and mortar fire. There was "strong evidence" of preparations for further civilian massacres, and there were several large concentrations of civilians who feared for their lives but enjoyed little effective protection. Massacres continued on a large scale in the countryside, especially in the south.

A new complication was that both sides had expressed lack of confidence in UNAMIR's impartiality and that was affecting their cooperation with the UN Special Representative and the Force Commander.

UNAMIR's mandate under resolution 912 did not give it the power

Human Rights Rapporteur to investigate Rwanda

On 26 May, the Commission on Human Rights appointed René Degni Segui of Côte d'Ivoire, Dean of the Law Faculty of the University of Abidjan, as Special Rapporteur to investigate the human rights situation in Rwanda. Mr. Degni Segui was to investigate the situation first-hand for an initial period of one year and compile information on the root causes and responsibilities of the recent atrocities. He was to provide recommendations for bringing violations and abuses to an end.

The Commission's decision was made following a special session convened in Geneva on 24 and 25 May, at the request of Canada, to consider the "unprecedented human tragedy" in Rwanda. A team of human rights field officers would assist the Special Rapporteur.

The Commission, believing that genocidal acts might have occurred in Rwanda, condemned "in the strongest terms" all breaches of international humanitarian law and all violations and abuses of human rights there. It affirmed that all persons who had committed or authorized violations of human rights or international humanitarian law were individually responsible and accountable for those violations, and that the international community would exert every effort to bring them to justice, while affirming that the primary responsibility for bringing perpetrators to justice rested with the national judicial systems.

UN Human Rights Commissioner José Ayala Lasso visited Rwanda from 9 to 13 May and reported that hundreds of thousands of civilians, including large numbers of women and children, had been killed, often after being tortured, and thousands had disappeared. Millions had been forced to leave their places of residence and seek refuge in other areas of Rwanda or abroad. Others were trapped between the lines of fighting or were forcibly detained; many were in hiding, fearing for their lives. Disease and famine threatened those who so far had escaped death.

"The killing of civilians in large numbers for ethnic or political motives is not new in Rwanda", the High Commissioner stated. However, the recent violence exceeded by far even the worst of previous outbursts of hatred and intolerance. The wanton killing of more than 200,000 innocent civilians called for the strongest condemnation by the international community.

to act effectively to halt the continuing massacres. The Secretary-General urged the Council to re-examine Council decisions under resolution 912 and reconsider what action to take to restore law and order and end the massacres.

On 6 May, Council President Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria said that in view of the unabated hostilities and killings, "urgent and effective means of action" should be considered. The Secretary-General should help provide for contingency planning for delivery of humanitarian assistance and support to displaced persons.

Resolution 918: Troop levels increase, arms embargo imposed

The Security Council, meeting in the early hours of 17 May, increased the strength of UNAMIR to up to 5,500 troops and expanded its mandate to include responsibility for the security and protection of civilians and humanitarian operations. It also imposed an arms embargo on Rwanda.

It adopted unanimously resolution 918 (1994) as a whole; however, section B of the three-part text was put to a vote separately and adopted by 14 to 1 (Rwanda). Section B called on States to prevent the sale or supply to Rwanda of arms and related *matériel* of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary police equipment, and spare parts.

The expanded mandate called for UNAMIR to protect displaced persons, refugees and civilians at risk, establish and maintain secure humanitarian areas, and support and secure humanitarian relief operations.

The Council demanded that all parties to the conflict immediately end the hostilities and agree to a cease-fire. It strongly urged them to cooperate fully with UNAMIR, particularly in ensuring the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance, and called upon them to treat Kigali airport as a neutral zone under UNAMIR's control.

The Secretary-General, in coordination with the OAU and countries in the region, was to continue efforts to achieve a political settlement in Rwanda within the framework of the Arusha Peace Agreement.

The Secretary-General was asked to report as soon as possible on the investigation of serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in Rwanda during the conflict, and on the humanitarian situation. He was encouraged to accelerate efforts to obtain from Member States the necessary personnel to enable deployment of the expanded UNAMIR.

UN Photo 185435/M. Grant

Assistant Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations Iqbal Riza *(right)* told the press on 7 June that the fighting in Rwanda continued. With him is Maj.-Gen. Maurice Baril, Military Adviser to the Secretary-General.

A desperate crisis

The Secretary-General had reported *(S/1994/565)* on 13 May that while the solution to the Rwanda crisis must be found through an early cease-fire and the implementation of the Arusha Peace Agreement, the desperate humanitarian situation, in the face of the ongoing killing and terrorizing of innocent civilians, urgently required an increased UN effort.

Security and assistance was needed for humanitarian relief convoys, operations and installations intended for persons in the interior of the country, numbering five times as many as those in the border areas. However, to address the problems only in the border areas would create a magnet for people in need in the interior and further increase the number of displaced persons.

The Secretary-General stated that UNAMIR II must be composed of "a credible, well-armed and highly mobile force" to successfully execute its mandate.

The resumption of the civil conflict following the 6 April tragic events and the ensuing violence and massacres called into question the ability of UNAMIR to carry out its original mandate under Council resolution 872 (1993) of 5 October 1993.

While the chances for a lasting peace were fundamentally in the hands of the political and military leaders of Rwanda, the international community could not ignore the "atrocious effects" of the conflict and "the slaughter and suffering of innocent civilians", the Secretary-General concluded.

Resolution 925: Mandate expanded again

The Security Council on 8 June extended until 9 December 1994 the expanded mandate of UNAMIR, which was to expire on 29 July. It also endorsed the immediate deployment of two additional battalions, along with

equipping and redeploying a previously committed battalion from Ghana.

By unanimously adopting resolution 925 (1994), the Council endorsed the Secretary-General's proposals to flexibly implement all three phases of the expanded mandate as approved by the Council in resolution 918. The first phase had called for bringing to full strength and deploying a mechanized infantry battalion, while the second and third phases each called for the deployment of two additional battalions.

The Council also approved the continuation of urgent preparations for deployment of the two battalions envisaged for phase 3. Member States were asked to respond promptly to the Secretary-General's request for resources, including logistical support capability.

The Council reaffirmed that UNAMIR would continue to act as intermediary between the parties in seeking a cease-fire. It would also contribute to the security of displaced persons, refugees and civilians at risk. It would also establish, where feasible, secure humanitarian areas and provide security and support for humanitarian relief operations. The Council recognized that UNAMIR might be required to take action in self-defence against persons or groups who threatened protected sites and populations.

The Council demanded that all parties cease hostilities, agree to a cease-fire, end the systematic killings in areas under their control and adhere to their assurances to cooperate with UNAMIR. It also demanded that the parties cease any incitement to violence or ethnic hatred, especially through the mass media, respect the persons and premises of the UN and other organizations serving in Rwanda, and refrain from any acts of intimidation or violence against peacekeeping or humanitarian personnel.

The Council further demanded that the parties undertake serious efforts to bring about political reconciliation and decided to keep the situation in Rwanda under constant review. The Secretary-General was to report to the Council on UNAMIR's progress as appropriate or no later than 9 August and 9 October. UNAMIR was to cooperate closely with the Special Rapporteur for Rwanda, appointed by the UN Commission on Human Rights.

The Secretary-General, in a further report of 31 May *(S/1994/640)*, had stated his intention to establish a special trust fund to support rehabilitation programmes in Rwanda and appealed for governmental contributions.

The report was based on a special mission to Rwanda from 22 to 27 May, undertaken by Iqbal Riza, Assistant Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, and Maj-Gen. J. Maurice Baril, the Secretary-General's Military Adviser.

Though assurances from both parties of cooperation with the mandate established by resolution 918 were secured, they would remain linked to the level of control that both sides exercised over their troops and armed elements, he reported.

While agreeing to cooperate with UNAMIR, both sides had raised questions regarding the conduct of operations on the ground. The Secretary-General stated that there was no intention to have UNAMIR assume the role of a buffer force unless the two parties so requested and the Council approved.

Genocide continues

Describing the situation in Rwanda as constituting "genocide", the Secretary-General, in his 31 May report, said he considered it unacceptable that, almost two months since the violence exploded, killings still continued. While calling on both parties to immediately cease such activities, he referred to "strong evidence" that the overwhelming responsibility lay with

Burundi: Dialogue encouraged

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 7 June encouraged the ongoing dialogue among the various Burundese political parties in order to reinforce the process of national reconciliation. He also expressed appreciation to the civilian and military authorities of Burundi for assisting the UN effort in coping with the tragic crisis in Rwanda.

On 29 July, the Security Council, concerned over the impasse in negotiations on the presidential succession, issued a statement in which it again supported the ongoing political dialogue in Burundi aimed at reaching an early agreement on the Presidential succession and condemned those extremist elements who had continued to reject the negotiations and sought to block progress towards a peaceful settlement.

On 11 April, the Secretary-General had welcomed the report of his Special Representative, Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, that the situation in Burundi had remained calm and peaceful since the tragic death of its President, Cyprien Ntaryamira, on 6 April. The people of Burundi had responded to the tragedy with "exemplary forbearance and restraint". They needed and deserved the international community's support in their praiseworthy efforts to maintain peace and to put in place an interim arrangement which would enjoy their full confidence.

The World Food Programme (WFP) on 2 June launched an airlift operation between Dar es Salaam and Bujumbura to ensure a continuous supply of relief food to the ever-growing refugee and displaced populations in Burundi, Rwanda and eastern Zaire. The WFP planned to fly in 1,500 metric tons of food commodities for some 1 million people in the region.

UNHCR Photo 24083/B. Press

Plastic and straw mats are their new home.

the "interim Government" and the Rwandese Government forces. "It would be senseless to attempt to establish a cease-fire and to allow deliberate killings of civilians" to continue in the Rwandese Government forces zone, he stated. What was needed was secured, organized humanitarian relief operations and security for assemblies of civilians in peril.

"Only when the killings have been halted, when a cease-fire is effective, humanitarian relief being provided and some semblance of security for the population returns can there be hope for the underlying political issues to be addressed through negotiations", the Secretary-General stated. At the same time, "stability will return only when agreement on the resumption of a negotiated political process is reached".

Resolution 928: UNOMUR mandate extended

On 20 June, the Security Council extended the mandate of the UN Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda (UNOMUR) for a final three-month period until 21 September, and agreed to a phased reduction of the 81 military observers monitoring the border between the two countries.

In unanimously adopting resolution 928 (1994), the Council also stressed the need for the observance and strict monitoring of the general and complete arms embargo against Rwanda.

UNOMUR was set up on 22 June 1993, under resolution 846 (1993), to deploy on the Ugandan side of the border observers who would verify that no military assistance reached Rwanda.

On 16 June, the Secretary-General had reported *(S/1994/715)* that, following the resumption of the civil war in Rwanda, the Mission had expanded its monitoring activities along the two countries' entire border. UNOMUR had continued to be a factor for stability in the area, and its role had been particularly critical in recent months, as UNAMIR had sought to defuse tensions resulting from the resumption of hostilities.

Other developments

Shahryar M. Khan of Pakistan was appointed as the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Rwanda as of 1 July, succeeding Jacques-Roger Booh-Booh. On 28 June, Mr. Boutros-Ghali demanded a halt to hostile radio broadcasts from the government-controlled zone against UNAMIR Force Commander, Major-General Romeo Dallaire.

Experts from a number of UN agencies have joined in the international effort to bring assistance to thousands of Rwandese refugees. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had been caring for 1.1 million refugees and returnees in the region and was making emergency plans for an additional influx of 200,000 Rwandese refugees.

The World Health Organization delivered emergency health supplies for 200,000 persons for six weeks. The World Food Programme delivered food to some 240,000 people.

The UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs has launched an emergency appeal for $ 16.5 million to meet the immediate needs of those affected by the violence. ■

UNHCR Photo 24077/B. Press

Medical care is provided by the Red Cross agencies.

UNOSOM II mandate renewed, humanitarian aspect stressed

The mandate of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) was renewed by the Security Council until 30 September, subject to a review no later than 29 July, after which the Council might consider other options regarding its mandate and future operations.

By unanimously adopting resolution 923 (1994) on 31 May, the Council decided that the review should be based on the Secretary-General's report on the humanitarian mission carried out by UNOSOM II and on the political and security situation in Somalia and progress made in achieving national reconciliation.

"The Somali people deserve a chance", the Secretary-General said in a 24 May report *(S/1994/614)* to the Council. He recommended the mandate extension despite the negative assessment of the political and security situation in Somalia. What was required from the Somali people, he pointed out, was evidence of serious and productive pursuit of the reconciliation process, strict observance of the cease-fire and cooperation with UNOSOM in preventing the recurrence of clashes and resolving local clan and factional conflicts.

The Secretary-General stated that the mandate renewal would signify Member States' determination to fulfil the UN vision of assisting Somalia towards political reconciliation, national reconstruction and peace.

In resolution 923, the Council also demanded that all parties in Somalia refrain from any acts of intimidation or violence against personnel engaged in humanitarian or peace-keeping work in the country. They were strongly urged to cooperate fully with UNOSOM II, carry out their commitments and implement the agreements they had signed, including those relating to voluntary disarmament, and pursue without delay the negotiations aimed at achieving national reconciliation.

Expressing appreciation to Member States which had provided troops or assistance, the Council underlined the continuing importance of UNOSOM II having the necessary troops, civilian personnel, equipment and financial and logistical support to carry out its mandate effectively.

Appreciation was also expressed to States which had extended humanitarian assistance or supported the Somali justice and police programmes, which should be accelerated, and such contributions were encouraged further on an urgent basis.

UN Photo 159387/M. Grant

"The Somali people deserve a chance", the Secretary-General said on 24 May.

UN Photo 159866/M. Grant

The renewal of the mandate of UNOSOM II signified UN determination to assist Somalia in reconciliation and reconstruction efforts.

The Council also reaffirmed States' obligations to implement fully the embargo on all deliveries of weapons and military equipment to Somalia imposed by resolution 733 (1992).

Avoiding the abyss

In his 24 May report, the Secretary-General also said: "Deciding to phase out the Somalia operation would signify abandonment of that vision and the risk of the country sliding back into the abyss from which it was barely rescued less than two years ago."

He emphasized that his recommendations were predicated on the assumption that Somali leaders would prove willing to pursue the path to political reconciliation. Should that not be the case, he stated that he would not rule out recommending the force's withdrawal. As such, a comprehensive contingency withdrawal plan was being formulated, because in the event of a failure of the political reconciliation process and/or a large-scale resumption of fighting, Member States' military and financial support for UNOSOM would surely diminish or cease altogether.

In reviewing recent political developments, the report stated that a defining moment in UNOSOM's "complex and stormy" history was reached on 24 March, when the Nairobi Declaration was signed by General Mohamed Farah Aidid, Chairman of the Somali National Alliance (SNA), and Ali Mahdi, Spokesman of the "Group of 12".

The Nairobi Declaration called for: convening of a national reconciliation conference on 15 May to elect a President and Vice-Presidents, and to appoint a Prime Minister; and completing and reviewing the formation of local authorities and establishing them, where necessary, as a basis for regional autonomy and respect for community rights.

The political leaders also reached an understanding based on: the inviolability of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Somali Republic; repudiation of violence as a means of solving conflicts; implementation of a cease-fire and voluntary disarmament; respect for fundamental human rights and democratic principles; the creation of an atmosphere conducive to brotherly coexistence among all Somalis; and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country after the devastation of the civil war.

UN Photo 159826/M. Grant

The humanitarian aspect of the Mission's work is crucial. *Above*, a Somali man drawing water from a well dug by UNOSOM personnel.

Somali political faction leaders, the report went on, were no longer talking about establishing a transitional national council, as stipulated in the 1993 Addis Ababa Accords, but rather were aiming at the formation of a national legislative assembly.

The preparatory meeting and the National Reconciliation Conference were to be "entirely Somali affairs, with a view to finding a Somali solution to the Somali problem", with UNOSOM playing the role of facilitator. The preparatory meeting was subsequently postponed, initially to give the factions more time to deliberate, the report continued. Inter-clan fighting and the consequent deterioration in the security situation later resulted in some factions asking for a change of venue.

The Secretary-General's report also mentioned efforts to convene the Lower Juba Reconciliation Conference in Kismayo, which opened on 24 May and ended on 19 June with 19 Somali leaders signing a nine-point peace agreement.

Efforts to rearm

The report stated that various factions, in apparent anticipation of UNOSOM's eventual withdrawal, were making an effort to rearm. The construction of combat vehicles, known as "technicals", had resumed.

Personnel from UNOSOM and other organizations had been threatened, attacked and sometimes kidnapped by uncontrolled armed individuals.

Deficiencies in UNOSOM'S capacity resulting from the withdrawal of United States forces had not been made up in full, especially with regard to air operations and night capabilities, the report continued. The remaining troops —19,000 as at 11 May—were committed to the security of airports and seaports and of routes for humanitarian aid convoys, as well as to patrolling within major towns and cities to allow safe movement of UNOSOM and non-governmental organization personnel.

In spite of progress made in 1993, the emergency situation continued and the welfare of Somalis remained at risk, the report said. Security problems still plagued relief efforts. A major concern had been the increase in inter-clan conflicts and banditry and the resulting interruptions in the provision of relief assistance.

In early February, Somalia was faced with a health emergency resulting from an outbreak of cholera. A World Health Organization Task Force, supported by a Swiss disaster relief team, was deployed in Somalia to

coordinate the fight against the widespread cholera epidemic. Some 1,500 cases, including 100 fatalities, had been reported on 28 March.

While repatriation of hundreds of thousands of Somali refugees living in other countries had continued, security problems and shortfalls in resources had slowed the programme.

Police and justice programme

The 24 May report also described the police and justice programme, as well as those relating to disarmament, demobilization and demining. The Somali Justice Programme was considered critical to the goal of Somali institutions ultimately becoming the main agents providing for the maintenance of law and order in the country. Some 7,799 police had been recruited. UNOSOM had tried to build up its civilian police component for providing training, equipment and assistance in establishing a viable Somali police force.

UNOSOM's demining policy, the report stated, was based on the principle of using Somali deminers only, since recent experience showed that expatriate firms were not necessarily acceptable to local political authorities.

Investigation results

The 1 June report *(S/1994/653)* of the Commission of Inquiry established pursuant to resolution 885 (1993) to investigate armed attacks on UNOSOM II personnel was submitted to the Security Council as requested and the Council decided to circulate it.

The finding that a country is without a government, as was done by the UN concerning Somalia, "has such far reaching legal and political consequences that careful criteria for invoking it seem required", the Commission stated.

Enforced disarmament in Somalia, the report said, had proved unattainable without exposing military and civilian international staff to hostile attacks resulting in casualties. Therefore, in the present context, forced disarmament of the militias under Chapter VII of the UN Charter should be abandoned.

The death of UN peace-keepers following a 5 June incident was investigated by the Commission of Inquiry. *Above*, a member of the Pakistani battalion, which lost more than two dozen troops.

Nations are "not prepared to accept substantial casualties for causes unrelated to their national interests. This fact puts severe limitations on peace enforcement operations", the Commission stated.

The Commission recommended that the UN should refrain from undertaking further peace enforcement actions within the internal conflicts of States and that it should, where necessary, continue peace-keeping operations of the traditional type under its Charter.

Regarding the 5 June 1993 attacks on UNOSOM II personnel, which resulted in some two dozen deaths among the Pakistani contingent, the Commission stated it "believes that the SNA orchestrated the attacks". However, the Commission said it had "not found any conclusive evidence to support" characterizations of previous investigations of the attacks as having been preplanned and pre-meditated. Commenting on how a UNOSOM inspection was carried out on 5 June at an SNA weapons storage facility, the Commission stated: "Instead of proceeding in such a manner to exhaust peaceful remedies, UNOSOM II decided, as it had the right and authority to do by virtue of resolution 814, that its very inspection would, if necessary, be carried out by military force".

In a 26 May letter of the Security Council President to the Secretary-General, the Council noted that many suggestions in the report had already been acted upon by UNOSOM II and by the Council. Council members believed that the report demonstrated the complexity and difficulty of the operation in Somalia, that many lessons had been learned, and that the Council would be able to build upon that experience in future peace-keeping operations.

Commission members were: Matthew Ngulube of Zambia, Chairman; Lt. General Gustav Hagglund of Finland; and Lt. General Emmanuel Erskine of Ghana.

Other developments

On 8 June, the Secretary-General appointed James Victor Gbeho of Ghana as his Special Representative for Somalia, effective 1 July.

A staff member of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was killed on 18 April when gunmen opened fire on a plane flying into Somalia on a cross-border feeding operation. UNHCR expressed deep concern for the safety of around 13,000 Somali refugees in conflict-torn areas of southern Yemen. ■

Support for October 1994 elections asked

ONUMOZ mandate renewed

Looking ahead to elections scheduled for October 1994, the Security Council on 5 May renewed the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) for a final period until 15 November 1994. ONUMOZ was established on 16 December 1992 to assist in the implementation of a peace agreement between the Government of Mozambique and the Mozambique National Resistance Movement (RENAMO).

With the unanimous adoption of resolution 916 (1994), the Council also called upon the Government and RENAMO to support the electoral process, including the work of the recently inaugurated National Elections Commission. It reiterated the importance attached to the elections, to be held on 27 and 28 October.

Expressing concern at continuing delays in the implementation of the General Peace Agreement, signed in Rome on 4 October 1992, the Council called for full compliance, in particular the assembly and demobilization of troops and the formation of the new Mozambican Defence Force.

The Council commended the 8 April agreement between Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano and RENAMO leader Afonso Dhlakama, expediting the assembly of Government troops and accelerating the pace of RENAMO demobilization. It urged the parties to meet the 1 June target for the completion of the assembly of forces and the 15 July deadline for the demobilization process.

While stressing the importance of cooperation with police observers of ONUMOZ, the Council urged the parties to allow the Operation, humanitarian agencies and all political forces in the country unimpeded access to the areas under their control.

The Council, also in resolution 916, expressed appreciation to France, Italy, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Zimbabwe for assisting or offering to assist in the formation of the new army and to those countries which had helped to achieve progress in mine clearance and related training.

UN Photo 185269

Pedro Comissario Afonso of Mozambique addressing the Council on 5 May.

Advances achieved

In a 28 April report *(S/1994/511)*, the Secretary-General said that with the beginning of demobilization on 10 March, the peace process had entered another critical phase. Some 55 per cent of Government soldiers and 81 per cent of RENAMO's had been cantoned.

The National Elections Commission was inaugurated in February, with 10 provincial offices established by the end of March. On 1 March, 30 RENAMO officials signed contracts with the Government to work as advisors to the 10 provincial governors, a key step towards administrative and territorial integration.

As of 18 April, 12,195 troops from the Government and 561 from RENAMO had been demobilized and transported to the districts of their choice. The process had slowed down in April and the assembly of remaining troops was then reported to be at a near standstill.

UN forces continued to carry out operational activities throughout Mozambique, including the maintenance of security in the corridors and along highways and main roads by conducting regular road and aerial patrols, as well as by providing train escorts.

Some 370 military observers from 19 countries were deployed with ONUMOZ, 292 of which were based in the 49 assembly areas.

Elections preparations

In May 1993, a Trust Fund for the implementation of the peace process in Mozambique had been established to facilitate the integration of RENAMO in the structures set forth in the General Peace Agreement. In addition to the Mozambique Liberation Front, the Government party and RENAMO, 12 other political parties had registered to participate in the elections.

The UN Office for Humanitarian Assistance Coordination of ONUMOZ continued to assist internally displaced persons, returnees and ex-soldiers, focusing on their resettlement and full integration into the Mozambican society.

Of the 4 million persons who were internally displaced at the time of the signature of the October 1992 Peace Agreement, 75 per cent had been resettled in rural areas, leaving an estimated 1 million still displaced. ■

Security Council threatens further sanctions if Lusaka talks fail

The Security Council on 30 June extended the mandate of the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) until 30 September 1994 and declared its readiness to impose additional sanctions to the existing oil and arms embargo against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) by 31 July, if it failed to formally accept the complete set of proposals on national reconciliation put forward at the Lusaka peace talks.

By unanimously adopting resolution 932 (1994), the Council welcomed the Angolan Government's formal acceptance of the proposals, recommended by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the three observer States to the Angolan peace process—Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States—and strongly urged UNITA to do the same.

Both parties were called upon to honour commitments already made and were urged to redouble their efforts to resolve the remaining points on the agenda, attain an effective cease-fire and conclude a peaceful settlement "without procrastination".

The Council reaffirmed its readiness to consider, upon completion of a comprehensive peace settlement, any recommendations for an "appropriate" UN presence in Angola. In the event that a peace agreement was not reached by 30 September, the Council would review the UN role in the country.

The Council had previously extended the mandate of UNAVEM II for one month, until 30 June, under resolution 922 (1994) of 31 May. By resolution 864 (1993) of 15 September, the Council had imposed an oil and arms embargo against the territory not controlled by the Government from 25 September 1993, and had provided for additional trade sanctions and travel restrictions against UNITA in the absence of progress in the peace process.

In reports dated 20 and 29 June *(S/1994/740 and Add.1)*, the Secretary-General stated that the fighting in Angola had continued to escalate, affecting 11 of 18 provinces. As negotiations continued in Lusaka, the two sides had increased their offensive military actions in efforts to gain advantage on the ground and consolidate positions. The fighting had caused further loss of life and damage to basic infrastructure. It had also seriously affected the humanitarian assistance programme and threatened the entire effort to stabilize the condition of vulnerable populations.

> "Both parties were called upon to honour commitments already made"

Among the main factors contributing to this was the suspension of emergency relief flights for which UNITA continued to withhold authorization. The Secretary-General recommended that the Council urge both parties, in particular UNITA, to permit the resumption of humanitarian assistance to all parts of the country.

The Secretary-General, in a 24 May report *(S/1994/611)*, appealed to the Angolan Government and UNITA for flexibility in order to reach a comprehensive settlement at the Lusaka talks, as agreement on 6 of 18 principles pertaining to the question of national reconciliation had still not been reached. The issue of UNITA's participation in the management of State affairs seemed to be the most contentious, since it concerned the allocation of senior Government posts to UNITA, including the governorships of provinces.

The five remaining principles concerned: the future status of "Vorgan" radio; the re-establishment of State administration throughout Angola; the return of Government property in the hands of UNITA and vice-versa; the assumption by UNITA members of Parliament of their seats in the National Assembly; and the provision of appropriate facilities to UNITA, including residences for its senior leaders.

Agreement had been reached on the completion of the electoral process, including the conditions under which the second round of the presidential elections would take place, the report stated. A measure of agreement had already been achieved on issues relating to the future mandate of the UN in Angola and the role of the three observer States, and the new mechanism that would be responsible for implementing the "Acordos de Paz" and the Lusaka Protocol.

The Council on 14 April expressed *(S/1994/445)* its concern at the continuing outbreaks of hostilities and offensive military actions in Angola, and demanded their cessation immediately.

Renewed fighting and lack of clearance for relief flights had cut by more than half the deliveries of food and other aid to Angola, the World Food Programme (WFP) reported on 10 June.

Japan pledged $2.4 million to WFP for mine clearance and road rehabilitation in Angola, where estimates of landmines range from 10 million to 20 million. ■

General elections set for September may be delayed

A team of international experts visited Liberia from 26 May to 4 June for consultations on a timetable for presidential and general elections scheduled for 7 September. Unless the Liberian National Transitional Government, the Elections Commission and the Liberian parties took drastic measures, there was a serious danger that they would be unable to hold the elections on schedule, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali reported on 24 June *(S/1994/760)*.

Should the Liberian parties fail to maintain their commitment to the peace process, he would have no alternative but to recommend to the Security Council that the UN involvement in Liberia be reconsidered.

With the full installation of the Transitional Government, progress had been made in the implementation of the 25 July 1993 Cotonou Agreement—the basis for achieving lasting peace and stability in the country—the Secretary-General stated.

The Transitional Government, which held its first meeting on 13 May, was a most important building block for the future, he added. However, the various Liberian interests and, in particular the leaders of the warring factions, had not yet addressed national reconciliation with the necessary resolve, compassion and commitment.

Their lack of resolve had led to increased suffering, especially among the displaced population. The UN Observer Mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) could only assist the Transitional Government and the parties in bringing peace to their country, but the main responsibility was with them, he stressed.

Delays in implementing the Cotonou Agreement could not be allowed to continue, the Secretary-General went on. A total of 3,192 combatants had been demobilized three months after the start of the operation.

Recognizing that employment was a major incentive for ex-combatants to return to normal life, the World Food Programme had initiated a food-for-work programme involving 1,200 ex-combatants in a National Volunteer Scheme of labour-intensive tasks.

> “The Transitional Government is a most important building block for the future”

The Security Council, in a 23 May statement, noted with satisfaction the full installation of the Council of State of the Liberian National Transitional Government (LNTG), as well as indications that the Transitional Government had begun to assume its responsibilities throughout the country.

The allocation of four previously vacant ministerial posts—defence, finance, foreign affairs and justice—had removed a major impediment to the full functioning of the Transitional Government, the Secretary-General reported.

However, fighting continued among and within Liberian factions, which had virtually halted the disarmament process. The hostilities had prevented the Cease-fire Monitoring Group of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOMOG) from carrying out its functions regarding disarmament and demobilization.

The Council said the fighting also made it very difficult for UNOMIL to implement its mandate, which had been extended on 21 April, under Council resolution 911 (1994), until 22 October.

The Council, also in resolution 911, urged the Liberian parties to cease hostilities immediately and cooperate with ECOMOG to complete the disarmament process. It welcomed ECOMOG's efforts in the peace process, and its commitment to ensure the safety of UNOMIL observers and civilian staff. It called on the Liberian parties to continue ensuring the safety of UNOMIL personnel and others involved in relief operations.

UNOMIL attained its authorized strength of 368 military observers in early January, deploying them in 27 of 39 projected sites throughout the country, the report stated. They were patrolling border crossings and other entry points, observing and verifying disarmament and demobilization, and investigating cease-fire violations.

Other developments

In an 18 April progress report to the Council *(S/1994/463)*, the Secretary-General had reviewed the political, electoral and humanitarian situation in Liberia, as well as the role of UNOMIL and its collaboration with ECOMOG. The Secretary-General stated that the Council of State had been installed on 7 March and the Transitional Legislative Assembly had been inducted into office on 11 March, with the United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO) being given the responsibility for naming the Speaker of the Assembly. The Supreme Court of Liberia had begun work on 14 March. ■

Peacemaking efforts 'must continue' despite persistent problems

Secretary-General calls for comprehensive approach

UN Photo 185254

Informal consultations in the Security Council Chamber on 21 April.

Despite setback after setback, efforts to find a solution to the three-year-old devastating conflict in the former Yugoslavia, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina, continued throughout the second quarter of 1994.

To evaluate UN activities in that regard, a "comprehensive approach" was needed, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the press at Headquarters on 25 May. "Bosnia is only one of the elements. You also have Krajina, between Croatia and Serbia; you have Macedonia; you have the problem of Kosovo. You have a group of problems. You have the problems of the embargo, and the problem of 2 million refugees and displaced persons."

This complex fabric of problems also included those surrounding safe areas and the humanitarian assistance, "which we are still able to provide in different cities" in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Secretary-General said.

"So if you take all of these problems, we have been successful in certain elements of the solution, and we have not been successful in certain other elements", he stated.

But setbacks, he said, "were not a reason not to continue". Although a final settlement would take time, "we must continue in spite of all the difficulties, in spite of all the criticisms. We have no choice but to continue on the diplomatic level to provide a framework for negotiation, to continue the negotiations until we find a solution." He stressed: "I believe that we will be able to find a solution."

The international community had never focused more attention and energy on the Yugoslav crisis than now, and that concerted effort had produced substantial gains, the Secretary-General stated on 26 April. "Sarajevo, the worldwide symbol of this conflict, is peaceful. Central Bosnia, where much of the fiercest fighting of the past year has been waged, is calm. All the elements of a peace agreement are on the table, waiting to be assembled according to a formula agreeable to all", he said.

YUGOSLAV CRISIS

The situation in the former Yugoslavia remained under constant review by the Security Council. During April, May and June, the Council met, either formally or in consultations, on nine occasions, adopting two resolutions—on strengthening the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) and on attacks against Gorazde. It also issued six formal statements.

Cease-fire violated

A one-month cease-fire agreement between the Bosnian Government and the Bosnian Serbs—negotiated on 8 June in Geneva by Yasushi Akashi, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Yugoslavia and Chief of UNPROFOR—was broken over the 18-19 June weekend.

In meeting top officials of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on 29 June in Brussels, Mr. Akashi discussed efforts to regain a cease-fire. Although offensive military incidents had increased, there were "no large-scale offensives underway from either party", and active fighting continued "only in some local areas", he said.

On 30 June, the parties to the Bosnian conflict were called upon by the Security Council to "stop all offensive military operations and other provocative actions, as well as all cease-fire violations and ethnic cleansing", and cooperate with the Special Representative and UNPROFOR.

In a statement by Council President Salim Bin Mohammed Al-Khussaiby of Oman, the parties were also called upon to resume negotiations on a "comprehensive cessation of hostilities for the entire territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a view to reaching agreement before the expiration of the 8 June Agreement on 10 July 1994, while continuing negotiations to achieve a just and comprehensive peace agreement".

In expressing grave concern over the parties' failure to comply with the Agreement, the Council deplored all attacks on UN personnel and called on those responsible to "ensure that such attacks do not take place".

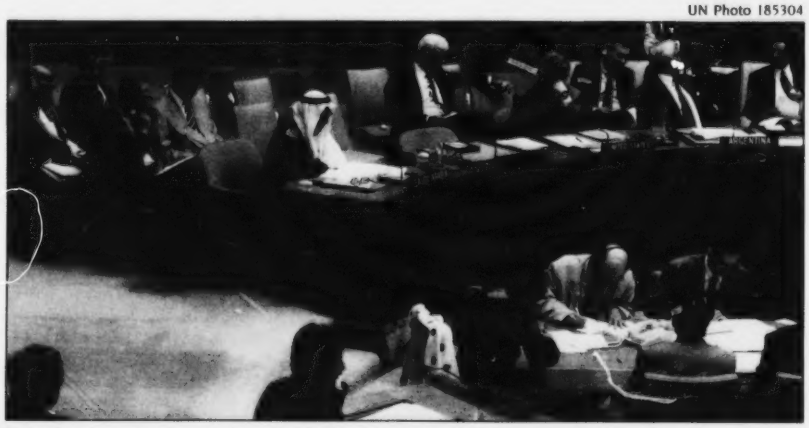
On 1 June, the Council had "strongly encouraged" the parties to "negotiate in good faith, so that a cessation of hostilities can be agreed to as quickly as possible".

In a 4 May statement by Council President Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria, it warned the parties of the "serious consequences of any offensive military action in or around the Posavina 'corridor'". It also welcomed arrangements to establish an UNPROFOR presence in that area. Special Representative Akashi was encouraged to seek "enhanced aerial surveillance" of areas of tension.

Also on 1 June, Mr. Akashi authorized the use of NATO close air support in defence of UNPROFOR personnel who had come under fire in south-west Bosnia.

From 1 April through 30 June, some 217 violations of the ban on military flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina, imposed under Council resolution 816 (1993), were reported—188 less than in the previous three months. That brought to 1,782 the total number of apparent violations since monitoring began in November 1992 under resolution 781 (1992).

UN Photo 185304



The Council met on 27 April to discuss Bosnia and Herzegovina.

UN Photo 159302/J. Isaac

An increase of 7,000 more UNPROFOR personnel was authorized under resolution 914.

Resolution 914: UNPROFOR reinforced

An increase of about 7,000 more UNPROFOR personnel was authorized by the Security Council on 27 April. In unanimously adopting resolution 914 (1994), the Council reiterated its determination to ensure the security of UNPROFOR and its freedom of movement in Croatia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The current increase followed a reinforcement of 3,500 troops authorized under resolution 908 (1994) of 31 March.

Earlier, on 14 April, the Council had demanded that all parties, and in

particular the Bosnian Serb party, allow UNPROFOR unimpeded freedom of movement and refrain from any further actions which could threaten the safety of the Force's personnel.

Condemning the recent incidents in Bosnia and Herzegovina affecting the safety and freedom of movement of UNPROFOR personnel, the Council warned those responsible of the serious consequences of their actions. Those incidents clearly violated binding Council resolutions, it said.

Resolution 913: Attacks on Gorazde condemned

In unanimously adopting resolution 913 (1994) on 21 April, the Security Council demanded the immediate conclusion of a cease-fire agreement in Gorazde and throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. It also condemned the shelling and attacks by Bosnian Serb forces against the safe area of Gorazde, and demanded the withdrawal of those forces and their weapons to a "distance to be agreed by UNPROFOR wherefrom they cease to constitute a threat to the status of Gorazde as a safe area".

The Council also called for the intensification of coordination and close consultation between the United States, the Russian Federation, the UN and the European Union "with the aim of bringing together current diplomatic initiatives".

In a 6 April statement, the Council had demanded the immediate cessation of any further attacks against Gorazde and called upon those concerned to ensure "full respect for the status of the 'safe areas'", in accordance with resolution 824 (1993).

Deploring recent acts of "violence and terror including ethnic cleansing", particularly in Prijedor and Banja Luka, the Council called upon all parties to negotiate a peaceful resolution of the Bosnian conflict.

On 26 April, the Secretary-General reported that Bosnian Serb forces had "complied with the demand that they cease their attacks on the town of Gorazde and pull back their forces and heavy weapons the prescribed distance". If that had not happened, he would have authorized the use of air strikes to protect the safe area of Gorazde.

NATO support

Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali on 18 April said the tragic events in Gorazde demonstrated the need for NATO air strikes, at UN request, against artillery, mortar positions or tanks determined by UNPROFOR to be "responsible for attacks against civilian targets" within the five other safe areas, besides Sarajevo—Tuzla, Zepa, Gorazde, Bihac and Srebrenica—and their surrounding areas.

On 22 April, NATO Secretary-General Manfred Wörner informed the UN Secretary-General *(S/1994/495 and S/1994/498)* that the North Atlantic Council had reaffirmed NATO's readiness to support the UN in efforts to protect Gorazde, as well as provide close air support "in the event Bosnian Serb forces attack UNPROFOR" or other UN and relief agency personnel throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina or forcibly interfere with the conduct of their mandate.

Still, the situation in Gorazde remained "one of stalemate", Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali reported *(S/1994/600)* on 19 May. Although the 23 April cease-fire had "generally been respected", and "rapid improvement in the military and humanitarian situation" in the area had been achieved—UNPROFOR and humanitarian organizations did "not enjoy complete freedom of movement", and secure and peaceful conditions for provision of humanitarian aid had "not yet been achieved", the Secretary-General lamented. UNPROFOR had played a "major stabilizing role" and contributed to normalizing the situation, he added, however, it could not be expected "indefinitely to preserve such achievements".

Special Representative Akashi must be given "every possible support", he went on, to resolve the difficulties encountered by UNPROFOR in and around Gorazde, in accordance with Council resolution 913 (1994). So agreed the Secretary-General, the Co-Chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia—Thorvald Stoltenberg and Lord Owen—Special Representative Akashi and the UNPROFOR Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Bertrand de Lapresle at a meeting in Paris on 12 May.

Compliance demanded

Immediate and full compliance with resolution 913 was demanded by the Security Council on 25 May. In a statement by Council President Gambari, it called on the parties to "resume, without preconditions, serious efforts to reach a political settlement" in Bosnia and Herzegovina and, in respect of Gorazde, to "cooperate fully with UNPROFOR to that end".

On 9 May, the Secretary-General had reported *(S/1994/555)* that "safe areas" were not in themselves a long-term solution to the fundamental conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which required a "political and territorial solution", but represented a "temporary mechanism" by which some vulnerable populations could be protected.

Extending the safe-area concept elsewhere in Bosnia was not an "advisable course of action", he stated. UNPROFOR, "overstretched and underresourced", did not have the capacity to "rush from crisis to crisis in different areas", and was "neither configured nor equipped for mandates to fight or to hold ground".

The successful implementation of the safe-area concept, he said, had to be based on "three overriding principles": that they were primarily intended to protect people and not to defend territory, and that UNPROFOR's protection was "not intended to make it a party to the conflict"; that executing the safe-area task should enhance support of humanitarian aid operations and contribute to the overall peace process; and that

UN Photo 183450/M. Grant

William Eagleton,
Special Coordinator for Sarajevo

UNPROFOR's limited resources and conflicting priorities must be taken into account.

Pledging conference

Some $68 million was pledged by 20 Governments and the Soros Foundation at a pledging conference on 29 June in New York, as part of the UN plan to restore essential services to Sarajevo.

Prepared by William Eagleton, Special Coordinator for Sarajevo, as requested by Council resolution 900 (1994) of 4 March, the plan would cost some $540 million, with $254 million needed urgently.

The pledging conference was a first step towards rebuilding that war-ravaged city, Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali stated at the conference. The international community's efforts would help transform Sarajevo from a "symbol for the terrible suffering inflicted upon the people in the former Yugoslavia" to a "symbol of hope and a source of momentum for peace".

Nearly 10,000 residents of Sarajevo have died during the conflict, with some 58,314 wounded and 1,680 disabled. The city's public and industrial infrastructure and over 60 per cent of its housing were reported destroyed or damaged.

A coordination conference on a UN plan for Sarajevo had been held in Vienna on 24 and 25 May, calling for restoration of electricity, water, heating, transportation and education.

On 11 May, a revised consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance programmes for the former Yugoslavia— seeking over $532 million for a beneficiary population of more than 4 million—had been launched by Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Peter Hansen and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata.

'Longest airlift'

A UNHCR humanitarian airlift to Sarajevo marked its second anniversary on 3 July. In the past two years, more than 119,000 metric tons of goods had been delivered to the city's 380,000 people, with an average of 14 flights a day, the Agency reported. High Commissioner Ogata on 1 July said that the "people of Sarajevo remain very much dependent on this life-saving air bridge".

The Sarajevo operation was the "longest sustained humanitarian airlift in history", surpassing the 1948-1949 Berlin airlift. During the worst months of the war, it had supplied more than 95 per cent of the humanitarian assistance to the besieged Bosnian capital.

Human rights

Commission on Human Rights Special Rapporteur Tadeusz Mazowiecki reported *(S/1994/743)* on 10 June that war crimes had been committed in Gorazde, and the "perpetrators must be brought to justice".

Massive human rights violations committed by Bosnian Serb forces included breaches of rights to life and bodily integrity of the enclave residents, as well as "those of property, the right to earn a livelihood, and of personal and family privacy and integrity", the report said. The rights of international personnel had also been "gravely violated, not least through deliberate targeting".

Government forces had also been "responsible for violations of human rights, though to a scale which is not comparable with that of the Bosnian Serb forces", he stated. Indications of "emerging animosity" on the part of local Muslims against their Serb neighbours were noted with concern.

Earlier, Mr. Mazowiecki had reported that hundreds of innocent civilians—among them women, children and elderly—had been killed, and thousands wounded. The Bosnian Serb aggression against Gorazde had been conducted with "total disregard and in blatant violation" of all established international norms and standards, and aggressors had ignored appeals from various international humanitarian organizations and did not comply with negotiated agreements, he said on 22 April.

UN Photo 159276/I. Isaac

A French peace-keeper directs landings of UN helicopters.

War crimes

The Commission of Experts, established under Council resolution 780 (1992) of 6 October 1992 to examine evidence of serious violations of international humanitarian law in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, held its twelfth and final session from 11 to 14 April in Geneva. Although it had not been possible to quantify the number of offences such as rape, torture, murder and mistreatment, those numbers were "appallingly high", the Commission reported.

In its final report *(S/1994/674)*—with annexes reaching more than 3,000 pages—the Commission said that it was shocked by the "high level of victimization" and the manner in which those crimes, "particularly brutal and ferocious in their execution", had been committed. Ethnic cleansing, sexual assault and rape had been carried out so systematically that they appeared to be a "product of a policy".

With regard to many violations, it would be possible to "develop cases suitable for presentation" before the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, it stated.

In addition, both historical and contemporary arguments concerning reprisals and superior orders did "not constitute a defence under the well-established law of international armed conflict and under the national laws of the parties to the conflict", the Commission concluded.

Tribunal session

Meanwhile, the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 —established under Security Council resolution 827 (1993) on 25 May 1993—adopted rules governing the detention of persons awaiting trial or appeal before the Tribunal or otherwise detained on its authority.

At its third session (25 April-5 May, The Hague), it also approved guidelines for assignment of counsel and a list of judges to review indictments.

In accepting The Hague as the seat for the Tribunal, the General Assembly on 14 April expressed its appreciation *(resolution 48/251)* to Governments pledging contributions for the judicial body.

Judge Richard J. Goldstone of South Africa was named Prosecutor of the International Tribunal on 1 July. In unanimously adopting resolution 936 (1994), the Council filled the vacancy left last year after the resignation of Ramon Escovar-Salom of Venezuela.

Greece/FYROM

In welcoming steps taken by Special Envoy Cyrus Vance with regard to differences between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Security Council members have urged both parties to cooperate fully in order to "reach agreement on outstanding issues as soon as possible", Council President Al-Khussaiby of Oman informed the Secretary-General *(S/1994/679)* on 7 June.

On 27 May, the Secretary-General had reported *(S/1994/632)* on Mr. Vance's "intensive series of parallel meetings" with the parties in April and May. They were considering a draft interim accord—a "condensation of the draft accord confirming the existing common frontier as an inviolable international border and establishing measures for confidence-building, friendship and neighbourly cooperation".

By 25 April, it appeared that the parties could not agree on the text, the Secretary-General stated. Mr. Vance then made proposals "based on a broad approach including many of the main issues comprising the difference between the parties".

Although the Special Envoy, during his 13 to 16 May meetings with the parties, had found "some interest" in the ideas presented, "it was still not possible to reach agreement on all points", the report said. Mr. Vance then suggested that the two sides "reflect further" before returning to New York for the next round of talks.

After a "serious exchange of views" at subsequent meetings with the parties in New York from 10 to 13 July, it was agreed that discussions would resume in the fall. ■

UN Photo 185325

Foreign Minister Stevo Crvenkosvski of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia with Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 28 April.

Cairo Agreement a major step towards self-government

United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has called the 4 May Cairo agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) on Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho a "first and major step" in implementing the Declaration of Principles on Palestinian Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed by the parties on 13 September 1993 in Washington, D.C.

"Each move forward, such as today's achievement, brings Israelis and Palestinians closer to the goal of peace, for which both sides have yearned", the Secretary-General said in a 4 May statement. "It also sets an example to the region as a whole. As the parties have themselves agreed, peace in the Middle East must be comprehensive, just and lasting", based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), Mr. Boutros-Ghali stressed.

The Secretary-General appealed to the international community to "fulfil its commitments in support of the Declaration of Principles", particularly with respect to financial assistance—an "essential element as the Palestinians embark on self-rule".

He also paid tribute to those who had facilitated the accord, in particular the United States and the Russian Federation as co-sponsors of the peace process, as well as Egypt and Norway.

A "new situation prevails on the ground, presenting new opportunities to the United Nations system", Mr. Boutros-Ghali said on 29 June, in addressing the Inter-agency Meeting on UN Assistance to the occupied territories. The Israeli Army and Civil Administration had withdrawn from Gaza and Jericho, which had "become self-governing areas".

Therefore, he continued, "every effort must be made to assist the Palestinian authority in establishing its new administration and the institutions necessary to sustain it throughout the transitional period".

Terje Roed Larsen of Norway was named the Secretary-General's Special Coordinator in the occupied territories as of 1 June. As a focal point for all UN economic, social and other assistance to the Palestinians in the occupied territories, he would "provide overall guidance to and facilitate coordination" among UN programmes and agencies in the territories, "so as to ensure an integrated and unified approach to economic and social development", the Secretary-General said.

The important political developments in the Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations, which afforded "great satisfaction" and a "sense of renewed hope for the future", were welcomed on 25 May by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

However, the overall situation in the occupied territories remained tense, and violence persisted, making it "more necessary than ever for the Committee to continue to monitor the situation and to redouble its efforts", said Committee Chairman Keba Birane Cisse of Senegal.

The human rights situation had "deteriorated rather than improved" since the signing of the Declaration of Principles, stated the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories on 7 May, after completing a field mission to the Middle East.

Although more than 1,000 prisoners had been reportedly released, administrative detentions and arrests had recently increased, resulting in a "lack of clarity about the number of those still under detention", the Special Committee added.

The Security Council on 26 May renewed the mandate of the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)—established in 1974 to supervise the cease-fire between Israeli and Syrian forces. It did so in unanimously adopting resolution 921 (1994). ■

UNTSO Photo

Schoolgirls of Gaza.

End to 'all-out war' reported in Yemeni conflict

An "all-out war in the Yemeni crisis"—which had erupted in the beginning of May between northern forces loyal to President Ali Abdallah Saleh of Yemen and southern forces supporting Vice-President Ali Al-Bidh—seemed to have "come to an end", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali reported *(S/1994/817)* on 12 July.

On eight occasions, he said, dates and hours had been agreed upon for the cease-fire to enter into force. But each time the cease-fires, including the one agreed upon on 30 June in Moscow, had not held "for more than a few hours". On some occasions, the designated time came and went, and the fighting did not even stop momentarily", Mr. Boutros-Ghali stated.

Deeply disturbed that "no cease-fire has been implemented or sustained despite several cease-fire declarations by both sides", the Security Council on 29 June had asked the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy for Yemen, Lakhdar Brahimi of Algeria, to "continue talks under their auspices with all concerned", with a view to implementing a "durable cease-fire" and establishing a mechanism "to monitor, encourage respect for, and help to prevent violations" of the cease-fire. In unanimously adopting resolution 931 (1994), the Council also strongly deplored the "infliction of civilian casualties and destruction resulting from the continuing military assault on Aden".

In earlier action, the Council had asked the Secretary- General to send a "fact-finding mission to the area as soon as practicable to assess prospects for a renewed dialogue among all those concerned and for further efforts by them to resolve their differences".

By unanimously adopting resolution 924 (1994), the Council on 1 June also reminded all concerned that their political differences "cannot be resolved through the use of force" and urged them to "return immediately to negotiations" to reach a "peaceful resolution of their differences and a restoration of peace and stability".

The most urgent task ahead was to "put an end to the fighting and to start providing urgent aid to the people who so badly need it".

Special Envoy Brahimi visited Yemen and the region from 8 to 21 June as head of the UN fact-finding mission. He said there was a general consensus regarding: the need for a cease-fire; a mechanism to supervise the cease-fire; and a dialogue between the parties with the help of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy. ■

UN political presence to be re-established

A UN political presence will be re-established in Afghanistan—provisionally located in Jalalabad "until security conditions permit a permanent return to Kabul"—it was announced on 27 June.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali took that decision on the basis of the results of a UN Special Mission to Afghanistan, headed by Mahmoud Mestiri of Tunisia, which visited the country from 27 March to 29 April.

The Secretary-General said he was impressed by the "unanimous desire for peace" expressed by the Afghan people, who had demanded an "immediate end to the current fighting and a political process in which all segments of Afghan society would participate".

There was also a "nearly universal request", he said, from Afghans that the UN "should not abandon them", but should rather play an important role in helping to establish a "representative political process". On the other hand, the Secretary-General was concerned at the "widespread perception" among Afghans that "external interference" was helping to "fuel the present hostilities".

The Special Mission had reported *(A/49/208-S/1994/766)* that it was "clear to almost everyone" in Afghanistan that "no military victory by either side" was possible, and a continuation of war served "no purpose". The UN and the international community must "assist the Afghans more actively in bringing peace to their country", since they saw the UN as the "last and only way out".

An opportunity to "alter the present stalemated political and military equation with practical diplomatic approaches" existed. Although that would not be an easy task, with "patience, steadfastness and creative political approaches", it was possible to "create a momentum for peace", the Mission concluded.

A re-engaged UN effort could incorporate a renewed physical political presence; a working group of interested countries to assist UN peace efforts and eventually prepare an international conference on Afghanistan; consultations with Afghan leaders on establishing a transitional authority and a total cease-fire; and holding of free and fair elections. ■

Seeking a new order through violence?

History had moved on, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the Academy of Sciences in Belarus on 6 April, while on an official visit to that country. "Peoples and nations are seeking, too often with violence, to reconnect with their interrupted history. Today, the order and peace of States is being challenged in more places, and in more ways, than in the days of the cold war," he stressed.

His statement reflected the situations in some former Soviet republics—particularly Azerbaijan, Armenia and Tajikistan—which continued to be monitored by the UN throughout April, May and June.

During his stay in Minsk—the capital of Belarus and the seat of the secretariat of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), a loose association of 12 former Soviet republics—Mr. Boutros-Ghali met with the Head of State of Belarus, Miacheslav I. Grib, and other top officials.

Among the subjects discussed were: disarmament and conversion; cooperation between the UN and the CIS in the area of peace-keeping; the situation in the Baltic States; difficulties of economies in transition; and consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe.

Tajikistan

A definition of the notion of a cease-fire and cessation of hostile acts was elaborated and agreed upon by the Government of Tajikistan and the opposition at the second round of negotiations on national reconciliation (18-28 June, Teheran).

Held under UN auspices and led by Ramiro Piriz-Ballon, the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Tajikistan, the talks were attended by observers from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Iran, Pakistan and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Nevertheless, divergences on the entry into force of a possible cease-fire agreement had made it "impossible to conclude the work successfully during this round", the Secretary-General reported on 30 June.

Realizing their responsibility for the fate of the Tajik people, the parties "reaffirmed their commitment to the political dialogue as the only means of achieving national reconciliation".

A first round (5-19 April, Moscow) had been "encouraging and met my expectations", the Secretary-General reported *(S/1994/542)* on 5 May. The agreement on a comprehensive agenda for the negotiations—a political settlement, solutions to the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons, and "fundamental institutional issues and consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan"—as well as the signing of a number of documents, constituted the "first step towards building confidence between the Tajik parties", he stated.

It would be "important to capitalize on the momentum achieved in Moscow and to make political dialogue irreversible", the Secretary-General stressed.

A consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for $37.8 million for Tajikistan, was launched on 6 April.

UNHCR Photo 23020/A. Hollmann

Displaced Azeris

UNHCR Photo 23018/A. Hollmann

Women of Azerbaijan

Armenia/Azerbaijan

Reaffirming their support for the CSCE mediation efforts in achieving a peaceful settlement of the conflict "in and around the Nagorny Karabakh region of the Azerbaijani Republic"—an Armenian-populated enclave—Security Council members on 17 June thanked Jan Eliasson, Chairman of the CSCE Minsk Conference and Minsk Group, for his 9 June report on those efforts.

Mr. Eliasson had informed the Council *(S/1994/687)* that a 12 May cease-fire, although fragile, was "largely being respected". The CSCE and the Russian Federation had held several rounds of consultations to further integrate their mediation efforts, and had elaborated a draft agreement to consolidate the cease-fire—foreseeing, among other things, deployment of monitors from the CSCE, including the Russian Federation and/or the CIS—a proposal "accepted in principle by the parties", he said.

On 27 May, Azerbaijan informed the Security Council *(S/1994/635)* that it had signed the agreement, but stated that the "Armenian side thus far has not consented to sign".

On the other hand, Mr. Eliasson reported, recent military activities had resulted in up to 50,000 more refugees and displaced persons, adding to the already existing 1 million. All concerned must take concrete steps to achieve a solution to "this tragic conflict", Mr. Eliasson stated. The "historic opportunity" now at hand "must not be missed", he stressed.

Chernobyl safety

Although there was no "simple one-step solution" to the safety situation at Ukraine's Chernobyl nuclear power station—site of the disastrous nuclear accident in 1986—its operation should be "discontinued" as soon as conditions allow, according to a majority of experts at a special meeting (21 and 22 April, Vienna) convened at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) headquarters.

Citing economic difficulties and energy shortages, Ukrainian officials declared, however, that nuclear power was essential in their energy planning, believing that the Chernobyl station could be upgraded to a "level no less safe" than other currently operating similar reactors, provided financial assistance was forthcoming.

Morris Rosen, Assistant Director-General of the IAEA, called the Chernobyl situation "unique". For several years, he said, the station would be at a lower level of safety, and Ukraine's economic problems would adversely affect spare parts availability and procurement of modern equipment. One former unit was encased in a deteriorating shelter and the remaining units would be operating in an "environment of elevated radiation levels", he said. ■

Georgia Mission mandate extended

An extension of the mandate of the 55-strong UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) until 21 July 1994—"within which period the further expansion of UNOMIG" would be addressed—was approved by the Security Council on 30 June.

By unanimously adopting resolution 934 (1994), the Council also noted with satisfaction the "beginning of Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) assistance in the zone of conflict", in response to the request of the parties, on the basis of the 14 May 1994 Agreement on a Cease-fire and Separation of Forces.

The Secretary-General was asked to report on the outcome of discussions among UNOMIG, the Georgian and Abkhaz sides, and the CIS peace-keeping force, designed to reach an agreement on the arrangements on the ground for coordination between an expanded UNOMIG and the CIS peace-keeping force.

Established under Council resolution 858 (1993) of 24 August 1993, UNOMIG was originally intended to verify the 27 July 1993 cease-fire agreement between Georgia and the forces in Abkhazia—a Black Sea region attempting to secede from Georgia. That agreement was subsequently broken by the Abkhaz offensive on 16 September 1993.

A 'matter of urgency'

In the 14 May cease-fire, both parties agreed that a CIS peace-keeping force should be deployed to monitor compliance with the accord, the Secretary-General had reported *(S/1994/725)* on 16 June.

They had appealed to the Security Council to expand UNOMIG's mandate "to provide for their participation in the operations", he stated in an earlier report of 6 June *(S/1994/529/Add.1)*.

An expanded UNOMIG could: monitor implementation of the agreement and observe the operation of the CIS peace-keeping force; investigate accord violations; maintain close contacts with both sides and the CIS force, and "contribute to conditions conducive to the safe and orderly return of refugees and displaced persons"; and report on any developments relevant to UN efforts to promote a comprehensive political settlement.

Earlier, on 3 May, the Secretary-General had indicated that a large-scale return of refugees would "not take place until an international military presence is deployed" in parts of Abkhazia to which they would be returning. "Without such an international presence they will not trust the Abkhaz authorities' readiness or ability to ensure their security", he stated.

Nearly half a million litres of chemical warfare agents destroyed in two-year operation

The UN Special Commission on Iraqi disarmament, set up under Security Council resolution 687 (1991) concerning the disposal of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, reported that it had completed in June an important part of its mandate—the elimination of that country's declared chemical weapons stockpile.

In a two-year operation involving some 100 experts from 23 countries, the Commission oversaw the destruction of more than 480,000 litres of chemical warfare agents, including mustard agent and the nerve agents sarin and tabun, and over 28,000 chemical munitions, involving eight types of munitions ranging from rockets and artillery shells to bombs and ballistic missile warheads. It also destroyed nearly 1.8 million litres, over 1.04 million kilograms and 648 barrels of some 45 different precursor chemicals for the production of chemical warfare agents.

Two inspection teams had been deployed to Iraq between 31 May and 14 June to confirm that the destruction of declared chemical warfare agents at Al Muthanna was complete and that those areas used for destruction had been left in a safe and acceptable manner. At the end of the inspection activities, responsibility for the site had been formally handed back to the Iraqi authorities. The Commission would, however, continue to visit the site as part of its ongoing monitoring and verification activities under Council resolution 715 (1991).

High-level talks

Rolf Ekéus, Executive Chairman of the Special Commission, in a joint statement issued at the conclusion of high-level talks held in Baghdad from 24 to 26 April, reported *(S/1994/520)* that issues relating to the implementation of relevant Council resolutions had been discussed.

The two sides reviewed the considerable progress made since the last round of high-level talks in New York from 14 to 19 March, and noted that many actions had been undertaken, including inspections to establish the baseline for, and phase in, ongoing monitoring and verification.

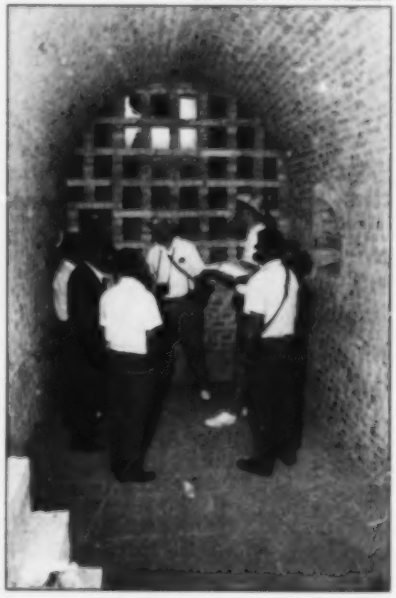
In conducting the intensive inspections, the Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) expressed their appreciation for Iraq's expeditious and positive responses to their requests for assistance and support. This enabled them to conduct inspections efficiently and effectively, and had contributed significantly to the ongoing monitoring and verification.

Iraq made assurances that it would respect the rights and privileges of the Commission and the IAEA which, in turn, reiterated their commitment to exercise those rights and privileges in a manner that respected Iraq's legitimate concerns relating to sovereignty, independence, security and dignity, in accordance with the UN Charter, and to conduct their activities in the least intrusive manner consistent with effective monitoring and verification.

In a 22 April report on the implementation of the plan for monitoring Iraq's compliance with resolution 687, the Secretary-General had stated *(S/1994/489)* that in the absence

UN Photo 159108/H. Arvidsson

UN Photo 159111/H. Arvidsson



The incinerator at Muthanna State Establishment *(left)* where large-scale destruction of chemical agents took place. At *right*, a Special Commission inspection team inside the incinerator chamber.

of documentation to assist in verifying the latest data provided on chemical programmes, the Commission was to send a team of experts to Iraq in May to interview former senior personnel associated with the programmes. The Commission had also continued assessing Iraq's capabilities in terms of sites, activities, equipment and materials.

Good cooperation

The ballistic-missile protocol-building team had been in Iraq since 30 March and was working smoothly, with good Iraqi cooperation, the Secretary-General stated. Chemical sensors had been installed and their performance was being assessed. The biological protocol-building team had started its mission on 8 April, and a team to assess plans to set up a monitoring centre in Baghdad had arrived there on 10 April.

The Commission was conducting an in-depth investigation of documents and information supplied by Iraq on expenditure for prohibited missiles. This documentation covered the period from 1977 through December 1990, accounting for nearly three quarters of the missiles covered by resolution 687 and declared by Iraq.

The IAEA Director General reported *(S/1994/490)* on 20 April that as part of its twice-yearly radiometric survey of the surface waters of Iraq, a total of 15 sites along the Tigris-Euphrates watersheds had been tested.

Three inspection missions had been carried out in which monitoring activities, including short-notice inspections, had been conducted at the eight "core" sites of the former Iraqi nuclear programme. Nothing had been observed that was indicative of prohibited activities.

In the course of the most recent inspections, IAEA had installed video surveillance systems at Um Al Ma'arik, where major components of electromagnetic isotope separations modules had been fabricated. Preparations were made for future installation of surveillance systems at the Nassr State Establishment in the flow-forming machine workshop.

IAEA was in the process of corroborating, with the assistance of Brazil, data provided by Iraq on the 20.6 tons of natural uranium in the form of UO2 declared by Iraq to have come from Brazil.

While Iraq had expressed its strong wish for a specific date by which IAEA would submit to the Council the report of Iraq's compliance with resolution 687, there were outstanding actions that needed to be completed. The Agency would have to satisfy itself that it was in a position to implement fully the ongoing monitoring and verification plan; however, it was not possible or practical to provide a specific date by which that would happen. The Iraqi authorities' positive attitude since the second half of 1993 was bearing fruit and should be encouraged. That would permit the acceleration of the full implementation of ongoing monitoring and verification, the report stated.

Compensation payments

The UN Compensation Commission has paid more than $2.7 million to 600 individuals and families to settle claims for death and serious injuries resulting from Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait in 1990, it has been reported.

The Security Council agreed with the Secretary-General's proposal to facilitate the transfer to the Commission of Iraq's oil-related frozen funds or proceeds from the sale of its oil. In a 13 May letter *(S/1994/566)*, the Secretary-General said that in the weeks immediately preceding the imposition of the Council sanctions, Iraq had exported substantial volumes of oil for which payment would not have been completed when the sanctions took effect on 6 August 1990. He added that while he had no independent information, oil industry reports indicated the amounts due for those shipments might be in the hundreds of millions of dollars. The Secretary-General asked for Council permission to seek information from oil companies to identify those funds and arrange their transfer to the escrow account. ■

Libya withdraws from Aouzou

In a successful conclusion of a 21-year-old territorial dispute between Libya and Chad, Libyan personnel and forces were withdrawn on 30 May from an area along its southern border, commonly known as the Aouzou Strip.

The withdrawal—agreed upon by the two sides on 4 April—was monitored by the UN Aouzou Strip Observer Group (UNASOG), established on 4 May under Security Council resolution 915 (1994). In that text, the parties had been called upon to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and grant UNASOG freedom of movement and all the services it required to fulfil its functions.

Earlier, in adopting resolution 910 (1994) on 14 April, the Council had recognized that sending a reconnaissance team to the area to survey conditions on the ground would require an exemption from resolution 748 (1992), which had imposed an air and arms embargo against Libya. It stipulated that the text's provisions should not apply in respect of UN aircraft flying to or from Libya for the purpose of conveying such a team.

On 31 May, the Secretary-General said that UNASOG's nine military observers and six international civilian support staff had carried out the mandate "to the satisfaction of the two parties".

The International Court of Justice on 3 February had ruled that the boundary between Libya and Chad was defined by the 1955 Treaty of Friendship and Good Neighbourliness between France and Libya.

Security Council renews force mandate

No agreement on confidence-building package

The Security Council extended the mandate of the UN Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) until 31 December 1994. The action came on 15 June, two weeks after the Secretary-General reported that "regrettably" his hopes had been dashed on the question of agreement of the two Cypriot communities on a package of confidence-building measures.

In unanimously adopting resolution 927 (1994), the Council stressed the urgent need to implement the package proposed by the Secretary-General. It urged all concerned to commit to a significant reduction in the number of foreign troops in Cyprus and to reduce defence spending to help restore confidence between the parties. It also urged both leaders to promote tolerance and reconciliation between their communities.

The package included the reopening of Nicosia International Airport and the fenced area of the town of Varosha. The leaders of the the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities had both accepted the package in principle in February 1994.

The Council also asked for a review of UNFICYP structure and strength, with a view to possible restructuring. It stressed that it would conduct a thorough review of the UN role in Cyprus and the progress achieved towards a political settlement.

The Secretary-General, in recommending the renewal of UNFICYP's mandate on 7 June *(S/1994/680)*, stated that the Force had maintained close liaison with both sides, but had been unsuccessful in increasing its freedom of movement in the northern part of the island, despite the assurances given to it.

The Secretary-General on 30 May had reported *(S/1994/629)* that his representatives in Cyprus had continued to pursue their efforts to obtain an agreement, even after their discussions with the leader of the Turkish Cypriot community had not yielded the necessary response. The Security Council could examine a range of options in its review of this deeply unsatisfactory situation, the Secretary-General stated.

One option would be to conclude that, despite 30 years of endeavour, the political will for a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus dispute simply did not exist and that UN resources should be redirected to other disputes and conflicts where there might be a greater chance of success.

A second option would be to conclude that a good offices mission, which by its nature was dependent on the consent and cooperation of the parties, was not an adequate method to deal with a situation in which for the past several years one side had consistently flouted the wishes of the international community, as represented in the Security Council. This would imply the adoption of coercive measures against that side.

A third option would be to put the latter package on one side for the moment and try to make progress by resuming discussion of the questions of substance, based on the set of ideas and the map which were presented to the parties in July 1992 and which have been in abeyance since November 1992.

UN Photo 157824/I. Isaac

Awaiting a solution.

A fourth option would be for all concerned to undertake a fundamental reflection on how to approach the Cyprus problem in a manner that would yield results. There could be merit in the Secretary-General's in-depth consultations with Council members, the Guarantor Powers, the two community leaders and others.

A fifth option would be to build on the fact that both sides had accepted in principle the package of confidence-building measures, and to renew efforts to obtain agreement on their implementation.

In a letter to the President of the Security Council dated 28 June *(S/1994/785)*, the Secretary-General stated that discussions with the Turkish Cypriot leader between 6 and 16 June had registered considerable progress towards agreement on the modalities for implementing the confidence-building measures. He had, therefore, intended to write to each leader expressing his intention to implement the package on the basis of the 21 March paper and subsequent clarifications. The paper would also have been submitted to the Security Council for endorsement.

However, on 21 June, the leader of the Greek Cypriot community informed the Secretary-General that he would have difficulty in accepting that manner of proceeding. The Turkish Cypriot leader had already declined to accept that procedure.

The Secretary-General added that there was a very substantial measure of agreement on the substance of the confidence-building package and the modalities for its implementation. However, agreement was lacking on how to record the clarifications that had emerged from recent discussions. ■

Mandate ends, UN presence diminishes
Violence on upswing

The mandate of the United Nations Military Liaison Team in Cambodia, set up in November 1993 for a single six-month period under Security Council resolution 880 (1993), expired on 15 May 1994.

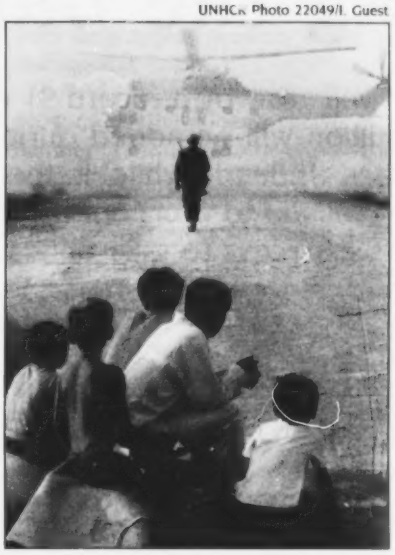
In a final report *(S/1994/645)* dated 31 May, the Secretary-General said the Phnom Penh-based mission, in accordance with its mandate, had primarily conducted liaison and reporting activities, following the departure of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC)—a major UN operation that had overseen for 17 months Cambodia's march to democracy, including the May 1993 elections.

While the Liaison Team was in Cambodia, observation missions had been sent to camps for defectors from the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) and to the Officer Training Academy of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF), he reported.

The RCAF and NADK had continued to fight in the north and north-western parts of Cambodia, the Secretary-General reported. The RCAF had conducted a number of attacks on NADK strongholds at Anlong Veng and Pailin, temporarily capturing both and reportedly causing some 30,000 refugees to cross the border into Thailand.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 28 March had appointed Benny Widyono as his representative for Cambodia for a period of six months, with three military officers drawn from the Liaison Team serving as his advisers. They would assist Mr. Widyono in fulfilling his mandate in accordance with the spirit and principles of the Paris Agreements. The presence of UN personnel contributed, in the Government's view, to a sense of security among the Cambodian people, the Secretary-General stated on 6 May.

UNHCR Photo 22049/I. Guest



The presence of UN personnel contributed to a sense of security.

King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia had informed the Secretary-General on 7 May *(A/49/160-S/1994/570)* and 25 May *(A/49/167-S/1994/619)* that the situation in the country had deteriorated to a dangerous degree, with increasingly violent and murderous military clashes also taking place.

"In vain, from my Beijing hospital bed and then since my return to Cambodia, I have launched many solemn appeals for a cease-fire and have proposed a round table for peace and national reconciliation in neutral territory from 2 to 7 May 1994", King Sihanouk said in his 7 May report.

Threat of partition?

The Royal Government of Cambodia had responded favourably to these proposals. The Khmer Rouge had confirmed its agreement in principle, but nevertheless set conditions, he continued. "In view of the limited powers vested in me by the Constitution, I feel that I have done the maximum to put an end to this conflict that has lasted too long . . . and presents, once again, the grave threat of an actual partition of my country and its decline towards death as a state and a nation.

"These mounting perils . . . prompt me to request your advice and opinion with regard to the provisions of the Paris Agreements and the special responsibilities of the United Nations in their implementation and application."

On 25 May, King Sihanouk reported he would preside from 27 to 30 May over an inter-Cambodian round table, to be attended by: Chea Sim, President of the National Assembly; Norodom Ranariddh, First Prime Minister of the Royal Government; Hun Sen, Second Prime Minister; and Khieu Samphan, head of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea.

Cambodia was divided into two parts: one composed of Government zones and the other of autonomous Khmer Rouge zones, the King stated. There seemed as yet no solution to end this fatal de facto partition. "However, I must obtain from the Khmer leaders of the two belligerent parties an unconditional and lasting cease-fire throughout the territory of Cambodia."

While the Government was prepared to agree to a cease-fire, the Khmer Rouge had remained silent. "Unfortunately, no one can make the Khmer Rouge do what they refuse to do. This is a problem which, in the long term, threatens the very existence of Cambodia. I am greatly saddened by it and overcome by despair", King Sihanouk concluded.

The UN Centre for Human Rights reported on 31 May *(A/C.5/48/78)* that it was assisting the Government in elaborating and implementing national laws involving human rights issues. Specialized training on the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, fair trial and other human rights aspects of the administration of justice would be organized by the Centre. Training of prosecutors would be undertaken. ■

Choices and responsibilities: **Finding the balance**

In 1994, world population will grow by a record 91 million, to more than 5.6 billion people. Some 950 million will be added during this decade alone, nearly all in developing countries. Indeed, while it took 123 years for the world population to increase from 1 billion to 2 billion, the transition from 5 billion to 6 billion, currently underway, is expected to take only 11 years.

Such a rapidly increasing population weighs heavily on the earth's resources and environment, and severely hinders human efforts to provide employment, housing and social services for the citizens of this planet.

To forge consensus on the path towards a more sustainable balance between human numbers and limited natural resources, decision makers and political leaders from all countries of the world and all sectors of society will convene in Cairo, Egypt, from 5 to 13 September 1994 for the UN-sponsored International Conference on Population and Development.

Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and Conference Secretary-General, in a special message prepared for the Conference's newsletter "*Population 94*", said that the Conference "will remind the international community that population problems are among the most serious threats to the attainment of sustained growth and sustainable development". The gathering "will strive to transform the heightened awareness of current and emerging population issues into operational strategies for effective and comprehensive programmes".

The major underlying theme of the Conference is to address the links between population, the environment, sustained economic growth and sustainable development. Related aims include: integrating population concerns into development activities; stabilizing population growth rates to balance human demands with available resources; and addressing important demographic trends, such as urbanization, national and international migration, and ageing.

"No lasting solution to problems of the environment and poverty can be found without resolving population issues", according to Dr. Sadik. "Refining strategic population and development goals, particularly at the operational level, extending the outreach and effectiveness of population programmes, and securing commitments and resources over the long term will pave the way for sustained and sustainable development."

The Conference will also emphasize choices and responsibilities, with key issues to include: enabling informed choices by ensuring access to safe and affordable family planning methods; acknowledging the need for better health care, housing, education and other measures to alleviate poverty; creating greater economic opportunities for women; and increasing domestic spending and international

assistance for population activities.

"The 1994 Conference is not just about policies and goals, demographic change and development at the macro level. It is also about improving the quality of life at the individual level", Dr. Sadik went on to state in her message. "We must remember the women, men and children throughout the world who suffer from hunger, poor health and premature death; the women and adolescent girls who die or are disabled due to inadequate reproductive health services; the large numbers of children, especially girls, who are out of school; the families crowded into urban slums; or the migrants from rural areas whose landholdings have become too fragmented or eroded to provide a living. Making family planning as widely available as possible to both women and men, improving maternal and child health, and advancing women's status, education and options can contribute to slower, more balanced population growth and a sustainable future."

Family planning is key

Key to managing population growth, say experts, is meeting the need for family planning services and bringing fertility rates—the number of children born to a typical woman—down to manageable levels.

Indeed, voluntary family planning programmes have been shown in a number of countries to be effective in substantially changing fertility patterns in as few as 10 years. Such efforts have proven to be most successful when used in conjunction with poverty alleviation and improvements in health, education and women's status.

But easing the pressure of the expanding human community on the environment and resources involves not only reduction of high population growth, but also a re-examination of the lifestyles and consumption and production patterns of the more affluent, who are responsible for a disproportionate share of natural resource use and pollution.

Computer collage by Laslo Cheffolway

Reducing the harmful impact of population growth and concentration on the availability of fresh water, soils, forests and other natural resources will require a combination of slower population growth, more rational population distribution, alleviation of poverty, environmentally safer consumption patterns, and other measures to achieve sustainable development and resources use.

Background

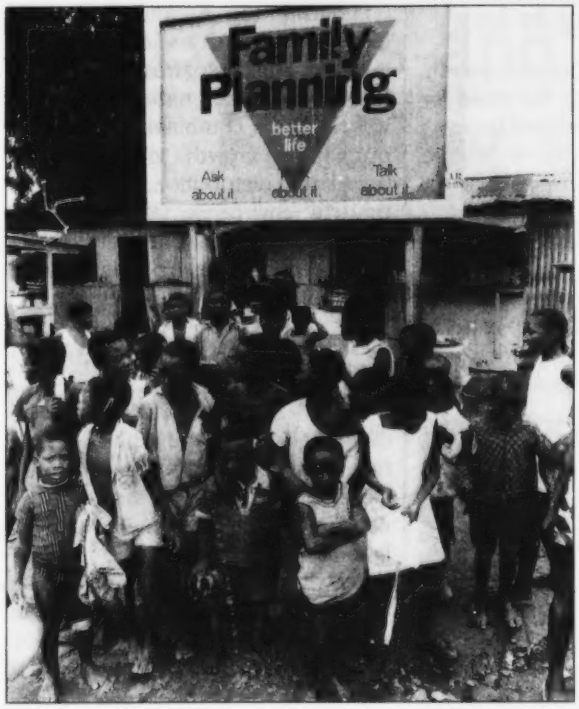
The UN Economic and Social Council called for convening the UN Conference on Population and Development in 1989, stressing the need for continued attention to population issues at a high level, and designated the Population Commission as the Conference preparatory body. In 1993, the General Assembly decided that the Preparatory Committee for the Conference should become one of its subsidiary bodies.

Three preparatory sessions were subsequently held—in March 1991, May 1993 and April 1994—to decide on the Conference agenda and formulate a programme of action of objectives and recommendations for adoption at the 1994 gathering.

In addition, five regional conferences have been held to review population and development policies and programmes. Six international meetings of technical experts have been convened to consider the key issues to be addressed at the Conference. Their findings have provided a scientific basis for the formulation of the recommendations to be adopted in Cairo. More than 900 non-governmental organizations have been accredited for the preparatory process and the Conference itself.

The Conference is to be the fifth international population conference convened by the UN. The first two—in Rome in 1954 and in Belgrade in 1965—were purely technical meetings. In contrast, the two subsequent conferences—the World Population Conference held in Bucharest in 1974 and the International Conference on Population held in Mexico City in

UN/FAO Photo 126117



Educating the people is a goal.
Above, a market-place in West Africa.

1984—were intergovernmental meetings which set goals and made recommendations in the area of population.

"Much has changed since the International Conference" in Mexico City, in the words of Dr. Sadik. "On the positive side, population policies have been almost universally adopted as integral parts of development efforts; reluctance to confront population as a development issue has largely been overcome; and developing countries, including those in Africa, now have a decade or more of experience in formulating and adopting population policies. Much progress has also been made in fertility reduction in some parts of the world."

However, she notes, "success in some countries has fostered some unjustified complacency. Human numbers are growing faster than ever before; stress on the environment continues to increase; migratory pressures have grown; and in some regions, efforts to balance population and development have been held up by economic problems."

The Conference will build upon the results of other important international gatherings, including: the 1990 World Summit for Children, at which world political leaders adopted a set of goals for children and development in the 1990s; the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development, or the "Earth Summit", at which Governments committed themselves to "Agenda 21"—a detailed action plan designed to achieve equitable and environmentally sustainable development; and the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, which reaffirmed the centrality of individual rights in all population and development activities.

The Cairo Conference will, in turn, contribute to two major conferences in 1995—the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women—with which it shares many common agenda and goals.

Cairo action programme

The draft programme of action, to be finalized and adopted at the Cairo Conference, draws upon the World Population Plan of Action adopted at the 1974 World Population Conference and the additional recommendations adopted by the 1984 International Conference on Population. Closely resembling the format of "Agenda 21", the draft programme of action includes a statement of principles, projections of future population growth and recommendations for action related to key issues, such as:

- population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development;
- gender equality, equity and empowerment of women;
- family, its roles, composition and structure;
- population growth and structure;
- reproductive rights, including sexual and reproductive health, and family planning;
- maternal and infant health and mortality;
- population distribution, urbanization and internal migration; and
- international migration and refugees.

The 1994 Conference has been "explicitly given a broader mandate than previous population conferences, reflecting the growing awareness of the interlinkages among population issues, sustained economic growth and sustainable development", states the draft preamble.

While target dates for implementation of objectives contained in the draft programme of action remain in brackets—that is to be debated and finalized at the Conference itself—the preamble states that the action programme "commits the international community to quantitative goals in three areas that are mutually supporting and of critical importance to the achievement of other important population and development objectives". These areas are: education, especially for girls; infant, child and maternal mortality reduction; and the provision of universal access to family planning and reproductive health services.

Among the chapters approved at the final session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference was a text on reproductive rights. Bracketed language, still subject to agreement at the Conference itself, includes references to fertility regulation, sexual and reproductive rights and health, and family planning.

The draft programme also stresses the need for research and training, as well as for information and education, to raise public awareness of population and development issues. It recognizes that over the next 20 years, Governments cannot and should not expect to meet single-handedly the goals and objectives of the

Conference, such as greater gender equity, improved access to reproductive health care and better family planning services, reduction in maternal, infant and child mortality, universal primary school education and other measures. "All groups in society have the right, and indeed the responsibility, to play an active part in efforts to reach these goals", states the draft.

Also detailed are the actions and financial resources needed to implement the programme's recommendations. It proposes that at least 20 per cent of public sector expenditures in all countries should be devoted to the social sector. Also, it is tentatively estimated that up to two thirds of the costs will continue to be met by the countries themselves.

Addressing linkages

Reflecting the major underlying theme of the Conference, the programme of action also addresses the complex linkages between population, development and environmental issues. "The everyday activities of all human beings, communities and countries are interrelated with population change, patterns and levels of use of natural resources, the state of the environment, and the pace and quality of economic and social development", states the draft. "There is general agreement that persistent widespread poverty, as well as serious social and gender inequities, have significant influences on, and are in turn influenced by, demographic parameters such as population growth, structure and distribution. There is also general agreement that unsustainable consumption and production patterns are contributing to the unsustainable use of natural resources and environmental degradation, as well as to the reinforcement of social inequities and of poverty", it asserts.

In other words, as impoverished rural populations grow, fragile lands are increasingly being cleared and over-cultivated in a spiralling process of soil degradation and erosion, contamination of scarce water resources, and destruction of forests and other crucial ecosystems. Poverty and landlessness are also driving millions of people into crowded, urban settlements that lack necessities like drinking water and sanitation, contributing to the spread of disease and pollution of the air and water. At the same time, these environmental conditions have had adverse effects on both the populations and the economies that support them.

Ending poverty will contribute to slowing population growth, as proven by recent experience in developing countries where income growth has tended to be faster when population growth is low. Therefore, concludes the draft, "explicitly integrating population into economic and development strategies will both speed up the pace of sustainable development and poverty alleviation and contribute to the achievement of population objectives and an improved quality of life of the population."

The programme of action aims, therefore, to fully integrate population concerns into development strategies to raise the quality of life of all people through appropriate population and development policies; and to reduce unsustainable consumption and production patterns, as well as the negative impacts of demographic factors on the environment to ensure sustainable development or, in other words, to meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

"During the remaining six years of this critical decade, the world's nations by their actions or inactions will choose from among a range of alternative demographic futures", asserts the preamble to the draft programme of action. Those alternative projections range from a low of 7.27 billion people in the year 2015 to a high of 7.92 billion. The difference of 660 million people in the short span of 20 years is nearly equivalent to the current population of the African continent.

Further into the future, the projections diverge even more significantly. By the year 2050, the UN low projection shows a world population of 7.8 billion people, and the high projection of 12.5 billion. "Implementation of the goals and objectives contained in the present 20-year Programme of Action, which address many of the fundamental population, health, education and development challenges facing the entire human community, would result in world population growth during this period and beyond at levels close to the United Nations low variant", the draft states.

Thus, the International Conference "represents the last opportunity in the twentieth century for the international community to collectively address the critical challenges and interrelationships between population and development", concludes the preamble. "The legacy of this Conference will be measured by the strength of the specific commitments made here, as part of a new global compact among all the world's countries and peoples, based on a sense of shared responsibility for each other and for our planetary home." ■

The everyday activities of human beings are interrelated with population change.

Troublesome trends:

Population growth, distribution, migration

At the same time that world population growth has reached an all-time high, population distribution within countries is increasingly being altered by changing demographics and rural-urban migration. The number of cross-border migrants and refugees has also risen sharply.

The International Conference on Population and Development is to consider action to help stabilize population growth rates, ease pressures underlying rapid urbanization and migration within and across borders, and safeguard the rights of international migrants and refugees. Demographic issues, such as the ageing of populations, will also be addressed.

In fact, there are significant differences among regions and countries in population growth and distribution, with important implications for the ultimate size and regional distribution of the world population. For example, more than 93 per cent of the 93 million people being added to the population each year are in developing countries.

Moreover, while many developing countries have a large proportion of children and young people in their populations due to high fertility levels, the proportion of older people, especially women, in developed and developing countries alike has increased notably. In the developed countries, approximately one in every six persons is at least 60 years old, and this proportion is expected to be about one in every four persons by 2025.

To address this situation, the Cairo Conference draft programme of action aims to enhance the self-reliance of elderly people and create conditions that promote quality of life and enable them to work and live independently in their own communities for as long as possible. It also calls upon Governments, in collaboration with the private sector, to strengthen support systems for the elderly.

Recent UN data show that 43 per cent of the world population lives in urban areas, compared to 38 per cent in 1975.

UN Photo 152797/J. Isaac

A census taken at work in Sichuan Province, China.

By 2005, half the world's population is projected to be urban. For example, in 1950, only New York's metropolitan area had more than 10 million inhabitants. In 1992, there were 13 urban agglomerations of at least that size, and that number is expected to double by 2010, when four fifths of the mega-cities will be in developing countries.

Consumption patterns of urban areas, especially in the more developed regions, continue to put heavy pressure on the global ecosystem. At the same time, rapid urban growth in many developing countries has led to deteriorating and unsustainable conditions of human settlement. Problems include poor shelter conditions, inadequate management of settlements and disaster-prone areas, poor land-use planning and deficient basic infrastructure.

In order to foster a more balanced spatial distribution of the population and reduce the role of the various factors which push people into migrating, draft recommendations call for:

♦ Governments assessing on a regular basis how the consequences of their economic and environmental

policies, among other factors, influence population distribution and internal migration, both permanent and temporary;

♦ Countries adopting sustainable regional development strategies which encourage the growth of small- or medium-sized urban centres and the sustainable development of rural areas;

♦ Governments considering incentives to encourage the redistribution and relocation of industries and businesses from urban to rural areas; and

♦ Governments actively supporting access to land ownership or use and access to water resources in rural areas, as well as encouraging investments to enhance rural productivity, improve rural infrastructure and social services, and facilitate the establishment of credit, production and marketing cooperatives and other grass-roots organizations.

The specific problems of large cities will also be analyzed and addressed "in full awareness of the positive contribution that large cities make to national economic and social development", states the draft. "The challenges faced by cities are often exacerbated by weak management capacities at the local level to address the consequences of population concentration, socio-economic development, environmental impacts and their interrelations."

The draft calls for Governments to increase the capacity and competence of city and municipal authorities; promote the integration of migrants from rural into urban areas; finance the needed infrastructure and services in a balanced manner; strengthen the capacity for land management, including urban planning; and implement effective urban environmental management strategies, especially relating to water, waste and air management, as well as to environmentally sound energy and transport systems.

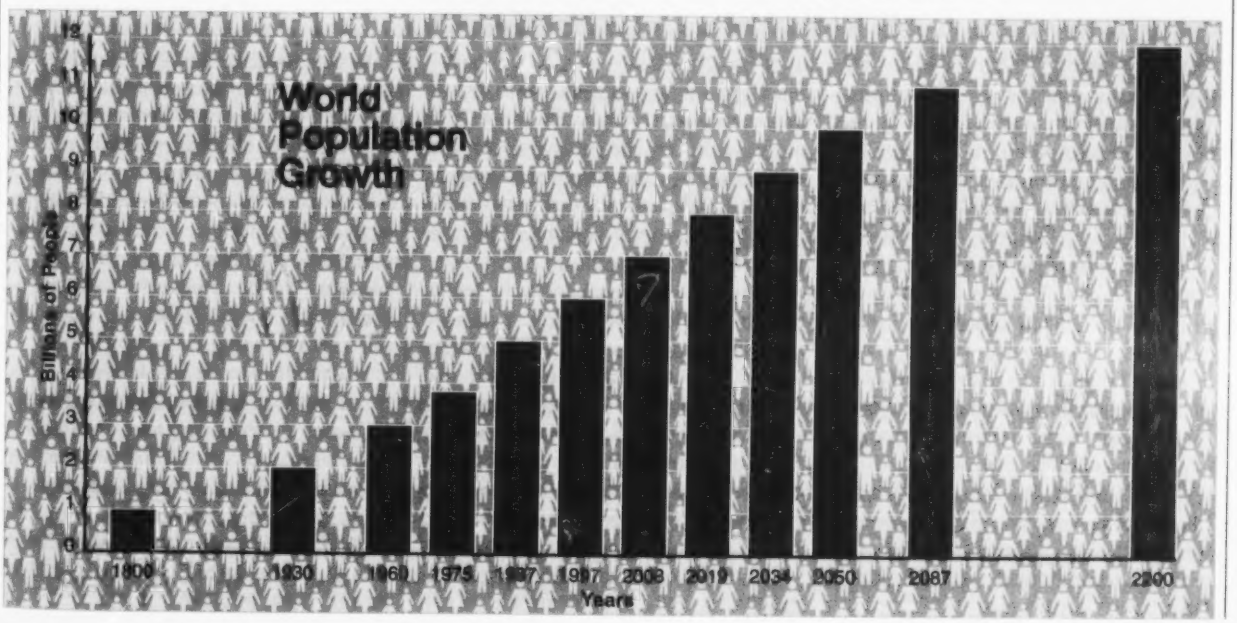
Refugees and displaced persons

Because there is no single definition of internally displaced persons, estimates of their numbers vary, as do the causes for their migration. However, it is generally accepted that those causes range from environmental degradation to natural disasters and internal conflicts that destroy human settlements and force people to flee from one area of the country to another. The draft programme calls for measures to help protect and assist displaced persons, especially women, children and the elderly, who are the most vulnerable, as well as measures to address and prevent the root causes of their displacement.

Internal displacement is often a precursor to outflows of refugees. In less than 10 years, from 1985 to 1993, the number of refugees worldwide has more than doubled from 8.5 million to 19 million. Most of those refugees find asylum in developing countries, often imposing a great burden there.

The draft programme of action calls for: enhanced mechanisms that promote shared responsibility for the protection and assistance of refugees; international support for countries of asylum to meet the basic needs of refugees and assist them in achieving self-sufficiency; and creation of conditions allowing for the voluntary repatriation of refugees in safety and dignity. In cases of sudden and massive arrivals of refugees and displaced persons, states the draft, Governments of receiving countries should consider according them at least temporary protection until a solution to their plight can be found.

The draft also aims to encourage more cooperation between countries of origin and countries of destination in order to increase the likelihood that migration has positive consequences for the development of both countries. Another goal is to ensure the social and economic integration of documented migrants, especially those who have acquired the right to long-term residence in the country of destination. ■



Reproductive rights, family planning:
A cornerstone of control

Over the past three decades, the increasing availability of safer methods of modern contraception has permitted greater individual choice in matters of reproduction throughout much of the world, resulting in improved health for mothers and children, as well as reduced fertility rates.

Guaranteeing the exercise of the right to reproductive health and family planning for all individuals and couples is a major focus of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development. The Conference will consider ways to broaden access to a wide range of modern, safe and effective contraceptive methods and related information.

The aim of family planning programmes, according to the Conference's draft programme of action, must be to enable couples and individuals to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children, and make available a full range of safe and effective family-planning methods.

International Labour Office

An outdoor family-welfare course in India.

Today, about 55 per cent of couples in developing regions use some method of family planning, representing a fivefold increase since the 1960s. Consequently, the total fertility rate there has declined from 6.1 children per woman in the 1950s to 3.7 in the 1990s.

However, the full range of modern family-planning methods still remains unavailable to at least 350 million couples worldwide. Survey data suggest that some 120 million additional women would be currently using a modern method if more accurate information and affordable services were easily available, and if husbands, extended family and the community were more supportive.

Rather than imposing specific incentives or disincentives to lower or raise fertility, the draft states that Governments should make it easier for individuals and couples to take responsibility for their own reproductive health by removing unnecessary legal, medical, clinical and regulatory barriers to information and access to family-planning methods.

The goal of public and private family-planning organizations should be to remove all programme-related barriers to family-planning use by the year 2005 through the redesign and expansion of information and services.

Reproductive health programmes have also proven to be a highly cost-effective component of socio-economic development programmes. They allow individuals and couples to limit or space births voluntarily, and avoid unwanted pregnancies. Such programmes promote safe motherhood and prevention of sexually transmitted disease, including the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) virus, and help reduce instances of unsafe abortion, infertility, sexual abuse and genital mutilation.

Thus, a main objective of the draft programme for the Conference is to ensure the provision of high-quality information and reproductive health care services that are more accessible, affordable, acceptable and convenient. The aim is to achieve informed voluntary choice about childbearing and methods of fertility control to meet changing reproductive and sexual health needs over the life cycle, in ways which respect the social, cultural, economic and demographic diversity of local communities.

To achieve this, the draft action programme calls for all countries to strive to provide reproductive health to all individuals as soon as possible and no later than the year 2015. Reproductive health care programmes must involve women in a central way in the planning, management and delivery of services, while innovative new programmes must be developed to reach out to men.

The draft also addresses the issues of sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS, calling for information, education and counseling for effective prevention of such diseases, as well as reliable supply and distribution of high-quality condoms to become integral components of reproductive health care services. ■

Empowering women: An essential objective

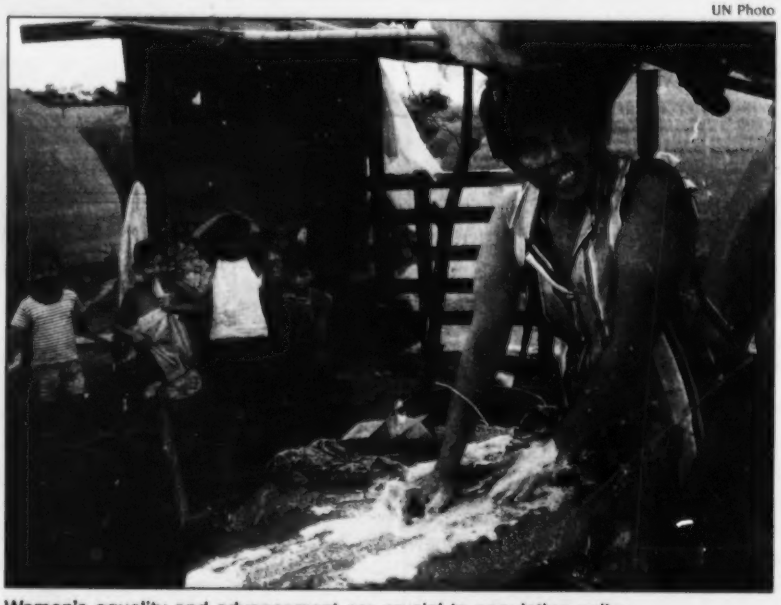
The empowerment of women—a basic human rights objective—is key to achieving development and population goals. Consequently, the International Conference on Population and Development aims to ensure that all population and development policies emphasize women's equality and advancement, including education, employment opportunities and access to health services.

"Improving the status of women also enhances their decision-making capacity at all levels in all spheres of life, especially in the area of sexuality and reproduction", states the Conference draft programme of action. "This, in turn, is essential for the long-term success of population programmes. Experience shows that population and development programmes are most effective when steps have simultaneously been taken to improve the status of women."

Education is particularly critical to empowering women in all aspects of their lives. Of the approximately 960 million illiterate adults worldwide, two thirds are women. Higher educational levels among women correspond to greater use of family planning, lower fertility rates and smaller families. In developing countries, it is estimated that each extra year of education a mother receives reduces her children's mortality rate by an average of 7 to 9 per cent.

Women's access to paying jobs also has an important bearing on population and development. Women who are part of the labour force tend to marry later and have smaller families than those who are not.

UN Photo



Women's equality and advancement are crucial to population policy.

The draft action programme calls for countries to empower women and close the gender gap as soon as possible by:

- establishing mechanisms for women's equal participation at all levels of the political process and public life in each community and society;
- promoting the fulfilment of women's potential through education, skill development and employment, paying urgent attention to the elimination of poverty and illiteracy among adult women;
- eliminating all practices that discriminate against women and assisting them to establish and realize their rights, including those that relate to sexual and reproductive health;
- adopting appropriate measures to improve women's ability to earn income, achieve economic self-reliance, and ensure equal access to the labour market and social security systems.

Furthermore, the draft calls for expansion of the value of girl children to both their family and society "beyond their definition as potential child-bearers and caretakers".

The draft also calls for Governments to: strictly enforce minimum age laws for marriage, as well as ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses; prohibit female genital mutilation wherever it exists; and prevent infanticide, prenatal sex selection, trafficking in girl children, and use of girls in prostitution and pornography.

Men also play a key role in bringing about gender equality since, in most societies, they exercise preponderant power in nearly every sphere of life. The draft calls for special efforts to be taken to emphasize men's shared responsibility in parenthood, and ensure that child support laws are enforced.

Elections take place in atmosphere of 'freedom, competitiveness, security'

1.2 million votes cast

UN Photo 186653/M. Grant

Salvadorian voters wait in line at a Santa Clara polling place.

In welcoming the fact that both the first and second rounds of the elections in El Salvador had taken place under "appropriate conditions in terms of freedom, competitiveness and security", the Security Council on 26 May extended the mandate of the UN Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) for another six months, until 30 November.

In unanimously adopting resolution 920 (1994), the Council also urged the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) to comply strictly with the 19 May Agreement on a new "timetable for the implementation of the most important agreements pending".

Urging all concerned to remove obstacles facing the implementation of the land transfer programmes, the Council stressed the need to accelerate reintegration programmes for ex-combatants of both sides and to fully and timely implement the March 1993 recommendations of the Commission on the Truth.

The Council also called on all concerned to cooperate fully with ONUSAL and the Secretary-General's Special Representative, Enrique ter Horst of Venezuela, in their "task of verifying implementation by the parties of their commitments". All States and international development and finance institutions were urged to "contribute promptly and generously" towards implementing all aspects of the January 1992 Peace Accords.

In addition, the Council stressed that police and public security provisions of the Peace Accords should be scrupulously observed, particularly the completion of the demobilization of the National Police and the enhancement of the civilian character of the National Civil Police.

Further extension needed

The unresolved issues in El Salvador were so important that it was "even more necessary for ONUSAL to remain in existence" for a further period, with sufficient capacity to verify implementation of outstanding provisions of the Accords and to "make its good offices available to help resolve difficulties that may arise in that regard", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali stated *(S/1994/561)* on 11 May in recommending the Mission's extension.

During the new six-month period, however, the size of ONUSAL would continue to be reduced "as rapidly as implementation of the outstanding agreements permits", he said. The Electoral Division had already been disbanded and the military component, with a peak strength of 368, was down to 12 by the end of May.

The main burden in the coming six months was to fall on: the core civilian staff in the Chief of Mission's office responsible for the "all-important land transfer and reintegration programmes"; the Police Division, which was to verify the transfer of functions from the National Police to the National Civil Police throughout El Salvador; and the Division of Human Rights which, in addition to its verification task, was already helping the National Counsel for the Defence of Human Rights to "build up its capacity to assume responsibility for those functions when ONUSAL is withdrawn".

Although implementation of the Peace Accords had been delayed and "must be rectified", there had been "notable advances, above all in the integration of FMLN into the political life of El Salvador", the Secretary-General observed.

Also, while the electoral process had shown "major defects" that needed to

be corrected, the elections themselves had been "completed without violence—a significant achievement", Mr. Boutros-Ghali stated.

"A heavy responsibility now lies upon the majority party"—the Alianza Republicana Nacionalista (ARENA)—and "the leading opposition party, FMLN, to maintain their dedication to the political process and to strengthen the institutions of democracy in El Salvador", he stressed. "Only this effort can make possible the consolidation of lasting peace in their country."

Pre-electoral situation

It was "regrettable" that there had been a "few isolated acts of violence during the electoral campaign", the Secretary-General had informed *(S/1994/486)* the Security Council on 21 April. Also, ONUSAL's Electoral Division had received "complaints of acts of intimidation and attempts to buy votes, especially in the Department of Sonsonate", he stated.

Nevertheless, the 18 April declaration by the two presidential candidates had "elevated the tone of the campaign", the Secretary-General said. In that agreement, the candidates had expressed their "faith in the country's governability", pledged to conduct a "dignified campaign" and promised to work towards "comprehensive reform of the electoral system".

Election results

Since none of the presidential candidates obtained the required absolute majority in the 20 March elections, a second round was held on 24 April.

The Secretary-General on 4 May reported *(S/1994/536)* that ARENA won the election with 818,264 votes (68.35 per cent), while the Coalition of Movimiento Nacional Revolutionario (MNR), Convergencia Democrática (CD) and Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) followed with 378,980 ballots (31.65 per cent).

Of a total 1,246,220 votes cast, 3,467 had been challenged; 40,048 invalid and 5,461 were abstentions, the Secretary-General stated. ONUSAL had posted 900 observers to cover all polling centres in the country.

"Election day proceeded virtually without serious incidents affecting law and order or ballot-rigging", the Secretary-General stated. Compared to conditions in the first round, there had been a "distinct improvement in the organization of the election", including the layout of the polling centres, stationing of personnel to direct voters to the proper polling places, finding of names on the electoral roll, free public transport and, "on the night of 24 April, early broadcasts of the election results".

Nevertheless, ONUSAL observers had noted some irregularities including late openings, early closings or non-monitoring of polling stations, and campaign violations. There were two complaints about armed civilians.

New timetable

The new "timetable for the implementation of the most important outstanding agreements" included measures relating to the Armed Forces, public security, land-transfer and reintegration programmes, as well as the recommendations of the Commission on the Truth.

Among other things, they provided follow-up procedures for: the collection and surrender of weapons; demobilization of the National Police and deployment of the National Civil Police; restructuring of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security; establishment of a regulatory machinery; and verification.

In addition, the parties and the UN were to hold "tripartite meetings every two weeks in order to follow-up the actions" provided in the timetable.

Human rights

The evolution of the human rights situation in El Salvador from November 1993 through February 1994 did "not present all the characteristics of deterioration" that were evident earlier, the Director of the ONUSAL Human Rights Division reported *(A/49/116-S/1994/385)* on 5 April.

That seemed to "confirm the general theory that clear responses which express a political will to investigate complaints are the best way to dispel or confirm suspicions of human rights violations", he said. They were also the "chief deterrent to human rights violations".

Ordinary violence, it was reported, could be "linked to the non-fulfilment, delay in or partial fulfilment" of commitments under the Peace Accords. Other problems included the "systematic practice of arbitrary detention", and the "serious crisis in El Salvador's penitentiary system and the failure of the prison authorities to carry out their duty to provide guarantees regarding human rights". ■

Guatemalan agreements 'encouraging'

Two further accords—on resettlement of the population groups uprooted by the armed conflict and on establishment of the Commission to clarify past human rights violations and acts of violence that have caused the Guatemalan population to suffer—were signed in Oslo, Norway, by the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) on 17 and 23 June, respectively. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 28 June said he hoped that the momentum that had been created would result in a "successful and timely negotiation of the remaining items of the Timetable for the Negotiation of a Firm and Lasting Peace" which, along with the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights, had been signed by the Government and the URNG on 29 March in Mexico City.

Sanctions expanded to secure compliance with 1993 Agreement

The sanctions regime against Haiti was expanded by the Security Council on 6 May to include a comprehensive commercial embargo—effective 21 May—aimed at bringing about compliance by the Haitian military authorities with the Governors Island Agreement.

In that 3 July 1993 accord, exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide—ousted in a September 1991 coup—and Lt. Gen. Raoul Cédras, Commander-in-Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, had agreed to a political dialogue, under the auspices of the UN and the Organization of American States (OAS), aimed at reaching a political truce and promoting a social pact to create conditions for a peaceful transition. Under the Agreement, President Aristide was to have returned to Haiti by 30 October 1993.

In unanimously adopting resolution 917 (1994), the Council decided that the sanctions would "not be completely lifted" until: the retirement of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and the departure from Haiti of the leaders of the police and military high command, including the Chief of Police of Port-au-Prince and the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces; adoption of the legislative actions called for in the Governors Island Agreement; creation of the proper environment for the deployment of the UN Mission in Haiti (UNMIH); and return of the democratically elected President.

The parties to the Agreement and any other authorities in Haiti were called upon to "cooperate fully" with Dante Caputo, Special Envoy of the Secretaries-General of the UN and OAS, to "bring about the full implementation of the Governors Island Agreement and thus end the political crisis in Haiti".

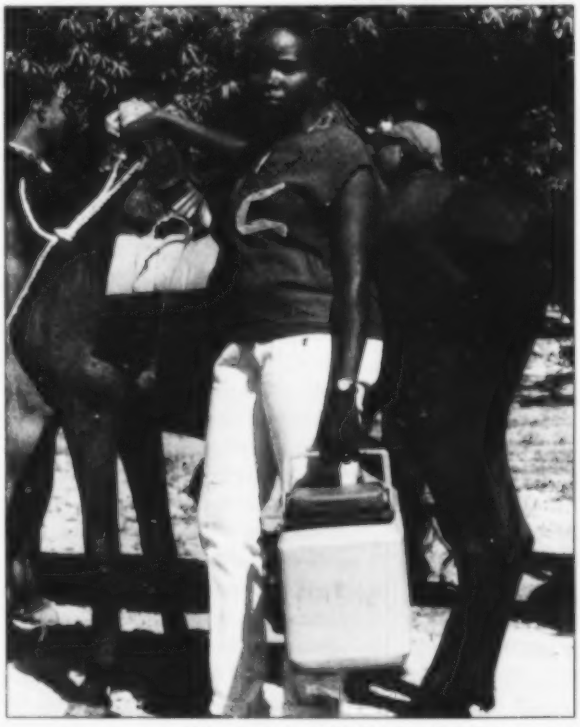
Under resolution 917, all States were also to prevent the entry into their territories of Haitian military officers, including the police, and those employed by or acting on their behalf, as well as their immediate families. States were strongly urged to freeze the funds and financial resources of those persons.

The Council called on States cooperating with the legitimate Government of Haiti, acting nationally or through regional arrangements, to use the necessary measures to ensure strict implementation of Council decisions, in particular to "halt outward as well as inward maritime shipping" in order to inspect and verify their cargoes and destinations.

In addition, all States were called upon to:

- deny permission to any aircraft to take off from, land in, or overfly their territory if it was destined to land in or had taken off from the territory of Haiti, with the exception of regularly scheduled commercial passenger flights;
- prevent the import, export or transshipment of products originating in Haiti into their territories; and
- prevent the sale or supply of any commodities or products to any person, body or business carried on in, or operated from Haiti, with the exception of medical supplies, foodstuffs, products for essential humanitarian needs, petroleum or petroleum products, including propane gas for cooking, and other products authorized in accordance with resolution 873 (1993), which re-established the sanctions regime against Haiti.

UNICEF Photo 1584/86/Daniel Elie



UN Photo 155676/M. Grant

The people of Haiti have begun to experience the growing impact of economic sanctions.

Further, all traffic carrying products to and from Haiti was prohibited from entering or leaving the territory of Haiti, except for regularly scheduled maritime shipping lines calling in with goods permitted under the above provision. Also excluded from the prohibitions was trade in informational materials, such as books and other publications, needed for the free flow of information.

On 15 June, the Security Council Committee established under resolution 841 (1993) to monitor compliance with the embargo against Haiti stated that the measures envisaged under resolution 917 and other relevant Council resolutions "should not apply to functioning of foreign diplomatic and consular missions" in Haiti, which remained subject to the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic and Consular Relations of 1961 and 1963.

Illegal attempt

On 11 May, Security Council members strongly condemned the illegal attempt by the military junta to replace Mr. Aristide, the legitimate President of Haiti.

In a statement by Council President Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria, it was stressed that participants in illegal governments in Haiti were subject to travel restrictions and freezing of funds and financial resources, as provided for in resolution 917.

Council members also reaffirmed their determination to ensure full compliance with all relevant Council resolutions, as well as their commitment to the "restoration of democracy in Haiti and the return of President Aristide, under the framework of the Governors Island Agreement".

Resolution 933: UNMIH extended

Strongly deploring the refusal of the Haitian military authorities to implement the Governors Island Agreement, the Security Council on 30 June extended the mandate of UNMIH until 31 July.

In unanimously adopting resolution 933 (1994), the Council asked the Secretary-General to make, by 15 July, "specific recommendations on the strength, composition, cost and duration of UNMIH, appropriate to its expansion and deployment", after the departure of the senior Haitian military leadership.

The Secretary-General was authorized to "identify personnel, plan and make prior arrangements" to enable the Council to rapidly deploy UNMIH, "once the Secretary-General reports to the Council and the proper environment for such a deployment has been created". Member States were invited to "prepare to provide promptly the troops, police, civilian personnel, equipment and logistical support required for the appropriate configuration of UNMIH".

Further deterioration

The further deterioration of the situation in Haiti had "substantially changed the circumstances under which the present UNMIH was planned", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had reported *(S/1994/765)* on 28 June.

In view of that, he said, the Council might consider modifying UNMIH's original mandate. Meanwhile, a one-month extension would enable the Friends of the Secretary-General on Haiti—Argentina, Canada, France, the United States and Venezuela—and Council members to undertake consultations among themselves and with the parties concerned on the possible strengthening of UNMIH and its role in the overall attempts of the international community to "find a long-overdue solution to this crisis", Mr. Boutros-Ghali stressed.

No progress

The Haitian military had not taken any steps to comply with resolution 917, the Secretary-General stated *(S/1994/593)* on 19 May. There had been "no progress" towards implementation of the Governors Island Agreement, he reported *(S/1994/742)* on 20 June. On the contrary, tensions had increased as a result of the "installation of an illegitimate government, the growing impact of economic sanctions, the continued repression and the humanitarian crisis". Also, some 50 politically related killings had been documented by the joint UN/OAS International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH).

Judge Emile Jonassaint, who was acting as provisional President and Prime Minister, had recently issued a "series of statements with the intention of restricting public liberties", the Secretary-General said, and announced that Haitian people seeking to flee the country for the United States would "face punishment", and that his regime intended to "enforce a 1980 decree providing for penalties for clandestine emigration".

On 11 June, a state of emergency had been declared in Haiti "on the grounds that the nation was facing extreme danger and risks of invasion", the Secretary-General stated. As a result, the security environment remained "highly unstable".

In addition, the creation of "strategic no-go areas" from which foreigners were banned—including territorial waters within a three-mile range, land borders and "places where radio antennas are located"—had been announced by the regime on 17 June, the report stated.

The humanitarian situation also continued to deteriorate in spite of efforts by the UN and OAS, non-governmental organizations and bilateral donors, the Secretary-General said.

Few prospects

The situation in Haiti was "complex" and offered "few prospects", Mr. Boutros-Ghali had reported *(A/48/931)* on 29 April. In the "absence of positive change"—both from the Haitian side and the world community—it was difficult to determine what additional efforts the UN could undertake to resolve the serious crisis.

However, as long as material circumstances would allow, "we must maintain our presence through MICIVIH and ensure the continuity of humanitarian assistance to Haiti", he stressed. ■

Commission considers preliminary elements of guidelines on arms transfers

UNICEF Photo 1113/Dennis Budd Gray

Illicit arms transfers affect all regions of the world.

Preliminary elements of guidelines for international arms transfers were considered by the Disarmament Commission at its 1994 session (18 April-9 May, New York).

Although the Commission adopted a final report *(A/49/42)* for the General Assembly—incorporating reports of its three working groups—it failed to achieve consensus, for the fourth consecutive year, on the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament. It thus concluded consideration of that subject.

Consensus was also lacking on the issue of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, but the Commission endorsed the recommendation of Working Group I that the item be again considered in 1995.

In debate, delegates expressed disappointment over the lack of consensus. Some agreed that an overemphasis on, and defense of, detailed national positions had overshadowed the international community's common disarmament goals.

Not discouraged, must persevere

In concluding remarks, Commission Chairman René Valéry Mongbé of Benin said that while the body's work might appear disappointing, delegations were not discouraged. One "need not hope in order to try, nor succeed in order to persevere", he stated, quoting former United States President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It was in that spirit that the Commission must continue its work, he added.

The Commission—a subsidiary organ of the Assembly with universal membership—was revitalized in 1978 to make recommendations on specific disarmament issues and to follow up on the decisions of the Assembly's special sessions on disarmament.

Using a new, phased work pattern, the Commission considers items in three-year cycles, taking up one item in the first year, another in the next, and a third in the concluding year, so that one item is added and one is concluded at each session.

In recent years, the Commission had made considerable progress on substantive questions by adopting consensus texts. Among its achievements were an illustrative list of confidence- and security-building measures—such as the UN Register of Conventional Arms—and guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and for regional approaches to disarmament.

Three stages of trade

Three stages in the illicit arms trade—acquisition of arms by unauthorized persons, their export and delivery—should be the focus of controls, Working Group III reported.

Referring to Assembly resolution 46/36H of 6 December 1991, which called upon States to give high priority to eradicating the illicit trade in weapons and military equipment, the report said that measures should be considered to prevent arms transfers to non-governmental bodies, as well as to harmonize the issue of Government-to-Government transfers.

Also, while combatting the illicit trade of arms, States should bear in mind certain principles, such as: the legitimate right of self-defense; States' absolute control over their armaments; need to preserve regional peace and security; and non-use of international arms transfers as a means to interfere in the internal affairs of other States. In addition, the international community's cooperation, as represented by the UN, was necessary to eradicate the problem, it was stressed. ■

Democratic People's Republic of Korea calls Agency actions "unreasonable"

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 13 June withdrew from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). In a communication *(S/1994/704)* to the UN Security Council President, the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that it considered IAEA actions "unreasonable" on the issue of nuclear inspections and would "not be bound" by the Agency's rules.

"Any unreasonable inspection can never be allowed till it has been decided whether we return to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) or completely withdraw from it", the DPRK declared.

The Agency, in receiving a similar message from the DPRK through the United States—depositary of the IAEA statute—stated on 15 June that the validity of its safeguards agreement with the DPRK pursuant to the 1969 Treaty was "not affected by that country's withdrawal from the IAEA". A State's obligations under a safeguards agreement were "independent of membership in the organization", the Agency said.

UN Photo 185310

Pak Gil Yon of the DPRK

On 30 May, the Security Council had expressed its grave concern at the IAEA's assessment that if the discharge operation at the five megawatt reactor continued at the same rate, the IAEA's "opportunity to select, segregate and secure fuel rods for later measurements" in accordance with the Agency's standards would be "lost within days".

In a statement *(S/PRST/1994/28)* by Council President Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria, the body also strongly urged the DPRK "only to proceed with the discharge operations . . . in a manner which preserves the technical possibility of fuel measurements".

Earlier, Council members had reaffirmed the importance of the NPT and its parties "adhering to it". In an 8 April statement *(S/25562)* to the media by Council President Colin Keating of New Zealand, the members also supported the North-South Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and encouraged the IAEA to "continue its consultations with the DPRK and its constructive endeavours for a proper settlement of the nuclear verification issue in the DPRK". ■

Nuclear issue in Korean peninsula discussed

The nuclear issue in the Korean peninsula "cannot be solved by way of pressure or force", but through negotiation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the United States, the "parties directly concerned", the DPRK told the Conference on Disarmament on 30 June.

Debate on the highly sensitive matter of the DPRK's withdrawal from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) took place during the second part of the Conference's 1994 session (19 May-1 July, Geneva).

On 23 June, the Republic of Korea had warned that the DPRK's failure to comply with its obligations under the safeguards agreement with the IAEA could "endanger peace and security in north-east Asia".

Other issues discussed by the Conference included: verification of a future comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty; unrestrained arms flows and the risk of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the post-cold-war era; security assurances to non-nuclear States against the use or threat of the use of nuclear weapons; and expansion of the Conference's membership.

The 1994 session had so far had "two important features", Vladimir Petrovsky, Conference Secretary-General, told the press at Headquarters on 26 April.

UN Photo 185293

Conference Secretary-General Petrovsky

One was a "Pax Multilateralism", which had emerged to become an "instrument of disarmament", in the twilight of the East-West confrontation. The other was a "growing realization" that arms control and disarmament were "part of efforts to promote international peace and security", he said. ■

Peace-keeping guidelines set out by Security Council

A threat to international peace and security, a clear political goal reflected in a precise mandate, a cease-fire between parties to a conflict with a view to reaching a political solution—those were among the factors to be considered when establishing new peace-keeping operations, the Security Council stipulated on 3 May. Other elements included readiness of regional organizations and arrangements to assist in resolving the situation, and the ability to reasonably ensure the safety and security of UN personnel.

As a leading principle, the Council stressed, UN peace-keeping operations should be under the operational control of the Organization.

These and other points were contained in the statement issued by Council President Ibrahim A. Gambari of Nigeria at a special meeting of the Council, held in the context of continuing consideration of the Secretary-General's "An Agenda for Peace" *(S/24111)*.

Specifically, the Council had begun consideration of the Secretary-General's 14 March report *(S/26450)* on "Improving the capacity of the United Nations for peace-keeping", prepared in response to the Council request of 28 May 1993. The statement noted that the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations this year had made recommendations on the report.

The increasing number and complexity of peace-keeping operations might require measures to improve the quality and speed of the flow of information to support the Council's decision-making, according to the Council statement. Enhanced consultations with troop-contributing countries were also needed. In establishing a new operation, the Council said, an estimate of projected costs for the start-up and the first six months of operation should be provided.

The 3 May statement covered various aspects of peace-keeping operations, including their establishment, ongoing review, stand-by arrangements, civilian personnel, training command and control, and financial and administrative issues.

> "As a leading principle, peace-keeping operations should be under UN control"

In view of the great importance it attached to improving the UN capacity to meet the need for rapid deployment and reinforcement of peace-keeping operations, the Council noted the Secretary-General's intention to devise stand-by arrangements which Member States could maintain at an agreed state of readiness as a possible contribution to a UN operation.

The system of stand-by arrangements could provide the UN with the "capacity to deploy needed resources rapidly to new or ongoing peace-keeping operations", Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali later stated in a report *(S/1994/777)* on 30 June. That would depend, however, on the necessary commitments by Member States.

So far, 21 countries had "confirmed their willingness to provide stand-by resources totalling some 30,000 personnel", the Secretary-General said. Those were: Argentina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Guatemala, Hungary, Jordan, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syria, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and Uruguay.

Also, additional commitments were expected from 27 other Member States, of which 10 were in the "process of finalizing their official offers", he reported. Altogether, that could raise commitments to about 70,000 personnel.

Nevertheless, the commitments made so far did "not yet cover adequately the spectrum of resources required to mount and execute future peace-keeping operations", the Secretary-General stated. He therefore urged Member States to actively participate in the stand-by arrangement system to "help make it an effective tool of the Organization in its continuing effort to improve its capacity for keeping the peace".

Stressing the need for a "unified and well-defined United Nations command and control structure", the Special Committee on 29 April called for immediate steps to strengthen present arrangements for "political direction, military command and control" with regard to peace-keeping operations.

In adopting a 91-paragraph report *(A/49/136)* on a comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects at the conclusion of its 1994 session (28 March-29 April, New York), the Special Committee said that force commanders and other key personnel should "be associated with the planning of peace-keeping operations from the outset". They should also be delegated the "appropriate degree of financial and administrative authority" in order to increase the missions' capacity to adjust to new situations. ■

Palau Compact implementation urged

In asking the United States, in consultation with the Government of Palau, to agree on a date "on or about 1 October 1994" for the full entry into force of the Compact of Free Association, the Trusteeship Council on 25 May suspended its sixty-first session (24 and 25 May, New York).

In one of two resolutions adopted without a vote, the Council noted that the people of Palau—the last remaining territory of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands under the Trusteeship System—had "freely exercised their right to self-determination" in a 9 November 1993 plebiscite, observed by the Council's visiting mission, and had chosen, by a 68-per cent majority vote, free association with the United States.

The United States Government, the resolution said, had "satisfactorily discharged its obligations" as the Administering Authority, and thus it was appropriate to terminate its Trusteeship Agreement on a date agreed upon by the two.

"We have made our own decision and we are ready to embark on the journey of independence with confidence", Palau President Kuniwo Nakamura stated.

William Wallace of the United States, said that the Compact would be implemented as soon as domestic legal requirements were met. Primary among them was that the plebiscite results be free of legal challenge in Palau.

In its report *(T/L.1293)*, the Trusteeship Council expressed the hope that in the near future the Administering Authority would take up the matter of the Trusteeship Agreement termination with the Security Council.

Under that Agreement, signed in 1947, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands was designated as a "strategic area". In December 1990, the Security Council terminated the Agreement for three of the four entities comprising the Trust Territory: the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands, which had both approved Compacts of Free Association with the United States; and the Northern Mariana Islands, which had opted for Commonwealth status.

Palau, the fourth entity, had seven plebiscites between 1983 and 1992. Although each time the majority of voters—between 60 and 73 per cent—had supported and approved the Compact, it failed to gain the 75 per cent required by the Territory's Constitution for it to become law. In a 4 November 1993 referendum, voters endorsed a constitutional amendment lowering the required percentage from 75 to "50 plus one" per cent.

A 'noble task'

By its second resolution, the Trusteeship Council amended its rules of procedure. It would now meet as and where the occasion might require, by its decision or its President's decision, or at the request of a majority of its members, the General Assembly or the Security Council. In introducing the text, France said the change did not mean the end of an institution. The Trusteeship Council would be able to assemble normally if circumstances arose.

In closing remarks, Trusteeship Council President Hubert Legal of France said that the body had performed an important task by having modified its rules of procedure to "drop the obligation to hold annual sessions without involving the dangerous task of rewriting the United Nations Charter. The Trusteeship Council will continue to exist as a memory of a noble task performed with dignity", he stated. ■

Disagreement on OAU observers

The identification and registration of persons qualified to participate in the referendum in Western Sahara which was to have started on 8 June has been delayed due to disagreement regarding the appointment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) observers. The process is now expected to start in August.

The Chairman of the Identification Commission of the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) reported that a large number of applications had been received on both sides—in Western Sahara and in the refugee camps in the Tindouf area—and preliminary analysis had been completed.

The Secretary-General reported on 12 July *(S/1994/819)* that about 55,000 completed forms had been collected in the Territory. Of these, about 20,000 had been processed by MINURSO staff.

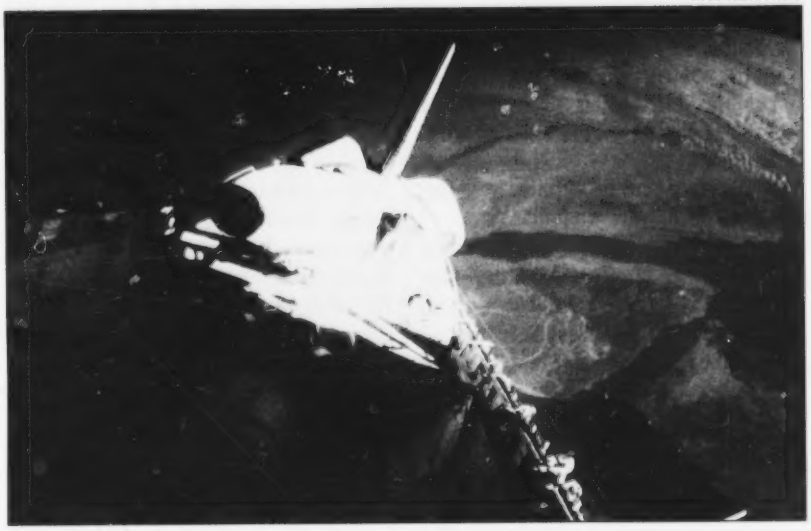
After having been photographed and fingerprinted, each applicant will appear before the identification team, which, in the presence of the relevant sheikhs and official observers, will question the applicant regarding his or her identity and eligibility.

Once voter eligibility has been decided, the Identification Commission will publish a list of voters, and applicants will receive voter registration cards.

The Secretary-General further reported that if the Security Council decided to hold the referendum, he would recommend that the transitional period start on 1 October 1994 and end with the proclamation of the results of the referendum, which would take place on 14 February. ■

Call made for third UN Space conference

NASA/ESA Photo



A view of Earth from space shuttle *Discovery*.

A third UN conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space (UNISPACE III) could be convened in the near future. So agreed the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its thirty-seventh session (6-16 June, Vienna).

In that regard, the Committee—the UN body responsible for promoting international cooperation to use and maintain outer space for peaceful purposes—asked its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to discuss a possible agenda and other issues related to the event.

Agenda topics might include: the future of planetary exploration; use of microwave systems and microsatellites for oceanographic and space research; the safety of future space activities with regard to space debris; space-based environmental monitoring; and uses of mobile satellite communications and other new technologies. Workshops on remote sensing, navigation, meteorology and astronomy were also proposed.

The second conference—UNISPACE II—held in Vienna in August 1982, sought to promote international cooperation in helping developing countries to use space technology for development. It had resulted in strengthening and reorientation of the UN Space Applications Programme to promote indigenous capabilities in those countries, as well as in creating, under the auspices of the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, an international space information service.

The Committee also recommended increasing its membership by eight, to 61. Each of the interested regional groups should be allotted not more than two of the new seats.

Brazil and Mexico agreed to co-host a centre for space science and technology education for the Latin American and Caribbean region, the first such regional centre to be established by the UN. To be located initially at Brazil's National Institute for Space Research, the Centre's secretariat would rotate every four years between the two countries, with its Secretary-General being a national of Mexico.

In a closing statement, Committee Chairman Peter Hohenfellner of Austria said the body this year had been "much more creative in finding new approaches to new ideas". In particular, it had found a sound basis for a compromise solution on the proposed enlargement of its membership.

Debate highlights

In debate, delegates summarized national accomplishments in space, including the use of satellite and remote sensing data for telecommunications, weather forecasts, disaster prevention and monitoring natural resources, and gave examples of how those accomplishments were being made available to other countries.

New international activities, such as monitoring the environmental impact of the Chernobyl nuclear accident, were also proposed, and some upcoming ventures, including the first launch of the Ariane V launcher of the European Space Agency, were announced.

Space technology was becoming a product in itself, the Committee was told, and its spin-off benefits included temperature sensors, the use on earth of a space-derived food processing control systems, clean-up of nuclear-contaminated sites and development of artificial hearts.

In taking up the reports of its subsidiary bodies—the Scientific and Technical and Legal Subcommittees, which met in Vienna from 21 February to 3 March and from 21 March to 5 April, respectively—the Committee discussed new space technology applications, namely: creation of training courses for distance learning via satellite; two-way video and voice teleconferencing; and such image-processing techniques as the remote printing of newspapers.

The need for international legal regulation of the geostationary orbit, in accordance with the principle of equitable access by all nations, particularly the needs of developing countries, was stressed.

Among other topics discussed were: problems related to space debris; the use of nuclear power sources in outer space; and the establishment of a legal framework for sharing the benefits of space exploration by all countries. ■

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Committee adopts guidelines for HABITAT II action plan

The Preparatory Committee for the UN Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) drew up guidelines for a draft global plan of action at its first substantive session (11-22 April, Geneva).

The plan of action, which is to be adopted by HABITAT II—scheduled to be held from 3 to 14 June 1996 in Istanbul, Turkey—will encompass two major themes: adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements in an urbanizing world.

Specific areas to be addressed by the global plan include: poverty reduction; settlements management; environmental management; disaster mitigation, relief and construction; women; the urban economy and employment; social and economic dimensions of urbanization and shelter development; education and capacity-building; and equity and vulnerable social groups.

Time was running out for the world's urban areas, stated Dr. Wally N'Dow, Conference Secretary-General. In the interest of a better living environment for everyone, delegates should commit themselves, as a community of nations, to "nothing less than a revolution", he said.

Taking place 20 years after the first UN Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver, Canada, HABITAT II is to set priorities for tackling urban issues and problems, and galvanize national and international resources to face challenges confronting the world's cities.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the Preparatory Committee on 11 April that by the twenty-first century, "the overwhelming majority of every country will be living in cities". Urban areas will "face the influx of vast new populations, clamouring for jobs and housing", he said.

For instance, in Kenya, a growth rate of 3.4 per cent had more than doubled the country's population in less than 20 years, according to a World Bank report. As young people migrated from rural areas to urban centres in search of jobs, urbanization had reached an unprecedented rate of 6 to 7 per cent annually.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali said that he looked to the Committee for new ideas and answers to questions such as: "How can we improve the governance and finance of human settlements? . . . How can we ensure basic hygienic conditions in urban areas, while avoiding long-term damage to the environment? . . . What must be done to mitigate the effects of natural disaster and war?" ■

INFORMATION

Strengthening the UN message

The power of information and its pivotal role in the world today—both as an instrument of social, cultural, political and economic changes and as an instrument of peace, democracy and development—were the focus of deliberations of the UN Committee on Information at its sixteenth session (9-24 May, New York).

Stressing the need to communicate the evolving UN message with clarity and impact, the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information, Samir Sanbar, told the 83-member Committee that forging strong media partnerships, developing wider key audiences and polishing the tools of programme delivery were at the forefront of his endeavours in fulfilling the mandate of the Department of Public Information (DPI)—the focal point of information activities of the UN.

The Department, he said, "has taken steps to sharpen its message and speak with one voice in presenting a unified United Nations at Headquarters and in the field".

The development and implementation of comprehensive information programmes for the forthcoming World Summit for Social Development and other major UN conferences, the interlinks between these events, and an integrated public information component for peace-keeping operations were also addressed by Committee members.

DPI's valuable contribution "in support of the eradication of apartheid" was noted with appreciation. Member States were encouraged to provide UN Radio with access to airwaves worldwide, bearing in mind that radio is one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching media available to DPI.

To present a unified image of the UN in the field, enhance information activities in all areas and achieve economies, the integration of a number of UN Information Centres with UN Development Programme field offices was also considered. The Committee recommended that the integration exercise be continued whenever feasible on a "case-by-case basis", taking into account the views of the host countries concerned.

The Committee also approved a proposal to increase its membership to 87, adding Belize, Croatia, the Czech Republic and Kazakhstan to its roster. ■

Secretary-General's blueprint for action provokes widespread debate

Sets tone for future strategies

UN Photo

Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali discusses his new "Agenda for Development" on 25 May at a press conference in New York.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's highly anticipated "Agenda for Development" was released on 25 May, immediately precipitating widespread debate in UN quarters and beyond. His blueprint for action on a whole array of economic and social issues was the focus of intense review at expert hearings at UN Headquarters (6-10 June, New York), organized by the General Assembly President.

It was also the subject of intergovernmental debate in the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council's 1994 session, as well as a Ministerial Statement issued on 24 June by the "Group of 77" developing countries.

"Development is still the major activity of the United Nations", the Secretary-General told the press at Headquarters the day his report was issued. He hoped the new "Agenda" would serve "to correct a distorted perception" that the UN was dealing only with peace-keeping operations, and to underscore the integral linkage between development and peace.

A coordinated, comprehensive approach to development was, in his view, the only way to effectively mobilize public opinion, address the problem of donor fatigue and attract development assistance in a world overburdened with competing priorities. The Secretary-General characterized his report as a "document of reflection", a first step to stimulate further discussion and recommendations by Member States. His final conclusions and recommendations on the "Agenda" are to be presented to the Assembly later in 1994.

Conceived as a counterpart to his 1992 report "An Agenda for Peace", which addresses the Organization's peace-keeping and peacemaking activities, "An Agenda for Development" was prepared in response to Assembly resolution 47/181 of 22 December 1992. The Assembly had asked for an analysis and recommendations on ways to enhance the UN role in promoting international cooperation for development.

The Secretary-General's 50-page

"Agenda for Development" *(A/48/935)* draws upon contributions from Member States and UN agencies and programmes, as well as from public and private sources worldwide.

In an introduction, Mr. Boutros-Ghali maintains: "The concept of development, and decades of effort to reduce poverty, illiteracy, disease and mortality rates, are great achievements of this century." He warns, however, that "development as a common cause is in danger of fading from the forefront of our agenda" in the post-cold war era.

Today, he continues, the competition to bring development to the poorest countries has ended; therefore, development "is in crisis". Responding to concerns that the UN was putting a greater emphasis on peace-keeping than on development, the Secretary-General states: "These fears are not borne out by the regular budgets or the numbers of staff members engaged in peace and in development."

In section II, entitled "Dimensions of development", the "Agenda" sets out five major and interlinked dimensions of development: peace, economic growth, environmental protection, social justice and democracy.

As the report states eloquently in a later section: "Without peace, human energies cannot be productively employed over time. Without economic growth, there will be a lack of resources to apply to any problem. Without a healthy environment, productivity will devour the basis of human progress. Without societal justice, inequalities will consume the best efforts at positive change. Without political participation in freedom, people will have no voice in shaping their individual and common destiny."

On the subject of "peace as the foundation" of development, the Secretary-General states that reduction of military expenditures is vital. Worldwide, between 1987 and 1992, a cumulative peace dividend of $500 billion was realized—$425 billion in industrial and transitional countries and $75 billion in developing countries.

However, little of that dividend appears to have been channelled into development, and progress has been difficult to achieve in an atmosphere increasingly marked by ethnic strife and economic insecurity, according to the report.

Therefore, a world of lower military expenditures, reduced military establishments, smaller stocks of weapons and less environmental destruction by military-related activities is not only desirable in itself, but necessary for development.

In an analysis of the "economy as the engine of progress", the Secretary-General states that sustained growth requires both a supportive national environment and a favourable international climate. Finding the right blend of government direction of the economy and encouragement of private initiative is perhaps the most pressing challenge of economic development.

Effective international cooperation for development cannot succeed unless the major economies make it their own objective, according to the report. There is a pressing need for adequate measures to reduce the crippling burden of international debt, discourage tendencies towards protectionism, and ensure the developing world's share in the benefits of the New World Trade Organization regime.

Growth requires political commitment and vision, and "the State must have the political will to act". The UN can act as "facilitator and communicator", but not as a substitute for the commitment of individual States and their partners, the Secretary-General suggests.

On "the environment as a basis for sustainability", the report states that in the developing world, ecological pressure threatens to undermine long-term development. Similarly, among the wealthiest nations, consumption patterns are depleting world resources in ways that jeopardized the future of world development.

Targeted policies are needed to ensure that environmental values are properly reflected in economic activity. Public as well as private enterprises must be held accountable for the environmental impact of their activities, and Governments must take the lead in formulating policies and pursuing strategies that encourage environmentally-sound development. Also, policies effective in reducing poverty will help reduce population growth and decrease pressure on the environment.

"Sustainability must be strengthened as a guiding principle of development", according to the report. Partnership is required at all levels of the development effort, including a partnership between humanity and nature.

In addressing the theme of "justice as a pillar of society", the report states that one fifth of the world's population lives in a state of absolute poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy, and that attacking both the causes and symptoms of these ills is the most urgent task for development.

The challenge of social integration is increasingly becoming internationalized, as large masses of people move across international borders in search of better lives, critically affecting national and international agendas. Until development on a global scale improves, such population movements will persist.

Governments must lead and facilitate social development, the report

High-level segment discusses 'Agenda'

The 54-member Economic and Social Council discussed "An Agenda for Development" at a high-level segment held from 27 to 29 June, including a policy dialogue on important developments in the world economy between Council members and the heads of the International Monetary Fund, the UN Conference on Trade and Development, the International Labour Organisation and the World Bank. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 28 June said development was "a global phenomenon that cannot be reduced to its economic dimension alone".

continues. However, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community groups, private enterprises, workers' organizations and others must also be actively involved.

Stating that economic laws cannot be changed, but their social consequences can be eased, the report stresses that the significance of the social dimension to development must not only be recognized, but must be acted upon.

In discussing "democracy as good governance"—the fifth dimension of development—the Secretary-General states that improving and enhancing governance is an essential condition for the success of any development strategy. While democracy is not the only means to this end, it is "the only reliable" one. Improved governance means the design and pursuit of a comprehensive national strategy for development, as well as an accountability for actions and transparency in decision-making.

In section III, entitled "The UN in Development", the Secretary-General states that whether expressed as a responsibility of States or as a right of peoples, development requires competent governmental leadership, coherent national policies and strong popular commitment. But few societies, if any, can pursue all aspects of development unaided, and other "actors" were required to assist States in their efforts.

These actors in development—public and private, national and international—are growing in number and diversity, a situation resulting in a need for greater coherence. The allocation of resources among various dimensions of development remains unbalanced and many activities remain underfinanced.

There is a need, the report states, to put in place a system of international cooperation that facilitates the mobilization of domestic resources and external assistance, which would include new levels of coordination among UN organs, as well as greater interaction between the policy advice and country operations of the Bretton Woods institutions, and the approaches and practices of other actors in development.

Raising levels of awareness of development issues and creating a global consensus would help create a "culture of development", the report states. The UN had been indispensable in drawing attention to the need for environmental action, in addressing the impact of demographic change, in the cause of human rights and in bringing an international focus on development in all its aspects. In this connection, a number of global conferences had already been held or were being planned under UN auspices.

As the leading proponent of international law and as the most important forum of international cooperation, the UN has a central role to play in enhancing the scope and effectiveness of multilateral cooperation, particularly with regard to international norms, standards and precepts.

In addition, while the Organization provides a forum for political consensus-building, a vehicle for international cooperation, and a source of policy analysis for millions of people throughout the world, it is also an important operational organization that works to achieve practical results.

The report maintains that by establishing an environment, a framework and often an umbrella for development activities, the UN not only contributes directly to development, but also facilitates the activities of many other actors.

The report says that the setting of development priorities and the coordination of activities and assistance are essential to achieve the maximum impact from development resources. It is here that the UN, and particularly the Economic and Social Council, has an important role to play. The revitalized Council could make a significant contribution to establishing greater policy coherence and coordination within the UN system as a whole. But the Organization cannot make decisions for its Members. "The present Agenda's purpose is to offer guidelines for thought and action by each Member State", according to the report.

In section IV—"Conclusion: The Promise of Development"—the Secretary-General states that the UN, as a "key mechanism" for international cooperation, possesses flexibility, legitimacy and a universal range of action. However, that mechanism is caught in a confining cycle, caused by a resistance to multilateralism, a reluctance to provide financial means to achieve agreed ends, and an unwillingness to engage in difficult operations. The only way to progress is with a "new and compelling collective vision", he says.

The UN could bring to bear the unparalleled broadness of its scope and the unique potential to integrate the many actors and dimensions of development, according to the Secretary-General. In his view, if employed prudently, efficiently and confidently, the UN is the best available instrument for managing the world situation with a reasonable expectation of success. ■

'Group of 77' wants new definition

The Group of 77 developing countries, at a special ministerial meeting at Headquarters on 24 June to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of its formation, adopted a Ministerial Statement on "An Agenda for Development".

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the Group that the gap between rich and poor countries was ever widening. "We must, therefore, reinvent development, reinvent a new North-South social contract, reinvent a new development ethic."

Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed-Salah Dembri, the 1994 Chairman of the Group of 77, said members should redefine the foundation of international cooperation for development. The Ministerial Statement called for the "Agenda" to reverse the prevailing fragmented approach to development.

Special panel of experts seeks new collective vision of development

Timed to complement the Secretary-General's policy initiative—"An Agenda for Development"—and to help realize the collective vision of development it contained, the World Hearings on Development, organized by General Assembly President Samuel Insanally of Guyana, were held at Headquarters from 6 to 10 June.

Participants included more than 30 prominent scientists, historians, environmentalists, economists, industrialists, former national leaders and media specialists from both the developing and developed world.

The gathering's objective was to promote frank and far-ranging discussion on development issues and, in Mr. Insanally's words, to "search for fresh ideas for advancing a new campaign towards a development strategy for the year 2000 and beyond".

Each day's hearings were devoted to a broad theme: the linkage between development, peace and security; the challenges of fulfilling the UN imperative of putting people first in growth and development; the impact of globalization on an increasingly interdependent world; the need for new forms of international cooperation in areas such as trade, external debt, and development financing; and international policy coordination and the role of the UN system.

Experts testified on specific themes and answered questions posed by a panel of senior Government representatives. The hearings emanated from a 1993 Assembly resolution *(48/166)* which invited the Assembly President to promote broad-based discussions and an exchange of views on "An Agenda for Development".

In an address delivered by his Special Adviser, Ismat Kittani, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said that the twenty-first century must be the age of development. He believed that the experts' presence at the UN represented a commitment to what he termed "the greatest challenge of our next 50 years".

Expert witnesses commented on the "Agenda for Development".

In a welcoming speech, President Insanally told participants that the UN was the only forum in which development issues could be merged with political issues, and that development must be given priority, not only as a contribution to the maintenance of peace and security, but also as an essential requirement of all the world's people in and of itself.

'A rich palette of ideas'

At the conclusion of the World Hearings, President Insanally said he had encountered "a rich palette" of new ideas and proposals on the nature of development in a changing world and the UN role in the process. Clearly, he said, development was seen to be people-centred, which required a stronger focus on poverty and on the social sector, including education, health and social safety nets.

Grass-roots participation was an essential component in the process, as was the concept of "self-help", although international cooperation and assistance were essential as well. Peace, security and development were, in the eyes of the experts, inter-related and mutually supportive. It was also widely agreed that high military expenditures were detrimental to economic and social development.

The market had been recognized as an efficient instrument for development, but there was increasing appreciation that the States and the market forces could be mutually reinforcing partners. In the financial area, the stagnation of official development assistance (ODA) was a major cause for concern. A World Trade Organization aiming at universality was seen as a landmark in international cooperation.

Coordination and coherence in the UN system was seen as critical to its success in meeting the needs of a changing world. Linking the Bretton Woods institutions more closely to the UN, so that they would pay increasing attention to the broad, global objectives set out by the international community, remained a major task.

Expert views

The following is a brief overview of experts' statements made during the World Hearings:

Emma Bonino, Deputy Speaker, Member of the Italian Parliament Presidency and the Foreign Affairs Commission, said that ODA should no longer be used as an instrument for achieving goals of the donor countries. It would be more useful for development to have multilateral cooperation under the UN aegis.

Margaret Catley-Carlson, President of the Population Council, said that the biggest globalized change of all was the "demographic transition", which entailed a society's change from a situation of high to low birth and death rates. The international community could help in the transition by lowering infant mortality, educating more of the world's children, and discouraging discrimination against women.

Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri, Professor at the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, said that the population dimension had not been fully addressed in the "Agenda". Education should not be a precondition for democracy, because illiterates exercised their rights in the same way as did educated people.

Kazuo Chiba, Honorary Research Fellow of the Centre for International Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science and former Chairman of the Council and of the Contracting Parties, of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), said that the "Agenda" would serve as a good basis for future discussion, but ways and means to resolve the issues of development had yet to be determined.

Ella Cisneros, President of the Together Foundation for Global Unity, Caracas, Venezuela, said that globalization was a process of internationalization of a new system being created, although nobody yet knew its name.

Cho Soon, former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Planning of the Republic of Korea, said the process of globalization referred to integrating the world into a single market. It was driven by rapid technological progress, particularly in the fields of telecommunications and information, by the upsurge of activities of transnational corporations and by political change characterized by the demise of socialism as a development model.

Pierre Defraigne, Director for North/South Relations at the European Commission, cited two important positive trends: first, development was really taking place; and second, thanks to the UN, a common perception of, and political consensus for, the path that development should take was emerging.

Francis Deng, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institute in Washington, D. C., said that development should be seen as a process of self-enhancement from within. The degree to which a society could effectively generate development would depend on factors influencing its self-esteem and confidence.

Norman Girvan, Director of the Consortium Graduate School of Social Sciences at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica, said that a partnership for sustainable development should involve more than the traditional public and private sectors. It must involve a "third sector", to be composed of NGOs, small farms and other grassroots economic initiatives.

Jean-Marie Guehenno, Permanent Representative of France to the Western European Union, said that globalization was inevitable and desirable and had formidable effects on the structure of the nation State. There could not be development in the world of globalization without belonging to a community, and those communities could not become "exclusivists".

Catherine Gwin, Vice-President of the Overseas Development Council in Washington, D. C., suggested the merger of UN development funds into a single emergency and development assistance agency, or the strengthening of the resident coordinator system, which would include "reinventing" the UN Development Programme as a streamlined coordinator of UN programmes.

Ryokichi Hirono of Seikei University in Tokyo, Japan, pointed to the development of East Asia, which he believed could potentially serve as a model for other countries. He stressed the role played by Governments in that region in building social and economic infrastructures and protecting the environment.

Helio Jaguaribe de Mattos, Dean of the Institute of Political and Social Studies, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, believed that to the extent that the masses were educated, they would be less likely to accept dictatorships. Therefore, education was crucial to the development process.

Paul Kennedy, Director of International Security Studies of the Department of History, Yale University, said that development was the most difficult and the most central issue for the future of the international order: it had no clear definition. The real issue was how to relate the globalization process to the desperately poor inhabitants of the planet. "Peaceful change through development" was needed.

Lawrence R. Klein, Benjamin Franklin Professor of Economics at the University of Pennsylvania and 1980 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Economic Science, said countries must keep their eyes on reaching full employment, rather than on reaching zero inflation. Harmonization of international policies did not imply that countries should have the same policies, but rather that their policies should fit together.

Prince Alfred von Liechtenstein, President of the Vienna Academy for the Study of the Future, said that the world's decision makers must understand that changing the course of globalization to one of sustainable development, whatever the definition of that term, was fundamental to the survival of humanity.

Wangari Maathai, Coordinator of the Green Belt Movement—a project founded by the National Council of Women of Kenya—in discussing "a new partnership for global development", detailed "bottlenecks" preventing development in Africa, which must be removed.

Charles William Maynes, Editor of *Foreign Policy*, said that the world desperately needed the creation of some mechanism, either through reform of existing institutions or creation of new ones, to provide leadership and direction in the development field. The Economic and Social Council should create a formal UN council of economic advisers to report annually on concrete ways to promote development and growth.

Sigrun Mogedal, Director of the Centre for Partnership in Development in Oslo, Norway, said that Governments that were marginalized in the global arena must be strengthened. NGOs must be allowed to act in civil society, correcting the State when needed and mobilizing support for development.

Julius Nyerere, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania and current Chairman of the South Centre, said the "Agenda" must recognize the fact of a North-South divide, and must deal with its consequences, as well as seek to redress the imbalance. He wanted a plan of action to end poverty throughout the world. There must not be a universal development policy prescription.

General Olusegun Obasanjo, former Head of State of Nigeria and Chairman of Africa Leadership Forum, speaking on development, peace and security, said that a comprehensive approach to these symbiotically related issues must be carried out either by a new "development security council" or the existing Security Council.

Antonella Picchio, Professor of Economics at the University of Modena, Italy, said that human sustainable development required more courage in changing values and theories. Women should contribute to the process as actors and not as victims. Attention to women's health should be comprehensive and should not focus exclusively on their reproductive activities.

Jan Pronk, Minister for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands, speaking on the theme of "coordination and institutional support: role of the UN system", called for a post of Deputy-Secretary-General for economic affairs to be created, with the incumbent accountable to the "economic window" of the Security Council.

Havelock Ross-Brewster, Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, said the present coordination mechanisms in the UN system were centred on the Economic and Social Council and the UN Secretariat. He proposed creation of a development council—involving the "Group of Seven" industrialized countries, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, and the Group of 77—having a status similar to that of the Security Council.

Hans Singer, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, United Kingdom, called for a global overview of structural adjustment programmes in which the UN could play a role. A major problem was that these programmes were constructed on a country-by-country basis, with no coordination, which led to such phenomena as oversaturation of commodity markets.

Frances Stewart, Director of Commonwealth Studies, Oxford University, England, said that globalization had essentially taken the form of an increased role for the international markets. Unfortunately, global and market forces destroyed rather than created safety nets for those who were marginalized.

A special message from Crown Prince El Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan stated that the "Agenda" should explicitly recognize the need to coordinate and achieve a more appropriate balance between the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council.

Hans-Helmut Taake, Director of the German Institute for Development Policy, said that reasonable and effective solutions to debt problems could be found only on the basis of a case-by-case approach. A country's debt service should not exceed its economic efficiency and repayment capacity.

Makoto Taniguchi, Deputy Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), said the UN should establish a creative and constructive North-South dialogue since, in the post-cold-war era, major threats to world peace would derive from global issues, such as extreme poverty in poorer countries and environmental degradation.

Ted Turner, Chairman of the Board and President of the Turner Broadcasting System in Atlanta, Georgia, said that inasmuch as two thirds of the world lived in the "third world", it was in fact "the first world". There had been concerns that the globalization of the media could give rise to cultural imperialism. In his view, people needed to see each other in order to better understand each other.

Wang Baoliu, Minister and Special Adviser on Economic Issues at the International Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, wondered if it was fair to blame lack of development coordination on the Economic and Social Council. Recent measures to revitalize the Council, if implemented seriously, could improve the situation. The success of the revitalization exercise depended on the political will of the membership.

Xue Mouhong, a Beijing University professor and Guest Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, said that the UN sought to promote development in the South with, in principle, its main resources coming from the North; therefore, to play a positive role in the development process, the UN had to forge a broad consensus among Member States. ■

Barbados Conference addresses problems of small islands

15-Chapter Action Programme adopted

In an effort to confront the serious economic and environmental problems of small islands—rising sea levels, vulnerability to storms and droughts, loss of fragile reefs and rain forests, coastal pollution, shortages of fresh water and import dependency—representatives from over 120 countries approved by consensus a comprehensive 15-chapter Programme of Action, at the UN Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (25 April-6 May, Bridgetown, Barbados).

A separate "Barbados Declaration", which provides the political framework for the Programme of Action and affirms that the international community has a responsibility to "facilitate the efforts of small island developing States to minimize the stress on their fragile ecosystems, including through cooperative action and partnership", was also adopted. It concluded that a powerful message should be sent on the possibilities of joint action undertaken with a sense of common purpose and partnership.

"As island States and other developing societies strive to raise living standards for their peoples, they will continue to need international support", UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told Conference participants in an opening speech on 25 April. "Such assistance is a necessary and prudent investment in a more stable, more prosperous and more peaceful world."

Lloyd Erskine Sandiford, Prime Minister of Barbados and President of the Conference, told the assemblage that the international community could not begin to solve development problems unless there was a greater flow of resources from the industrialized to the developing world in the form of foreign direct investment, official development assistance, and support from international institutions and other sources.

Dame Nita Barrow, Governor-General of Barbados, presented a report prepared by the Group of Eminent Persons, which had met earlier in Bridgetown on 21 and 22 April *(see box, p. 68)*.

Some 77 Member States, four observers, as well as UN-affiliated agencies, and non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations participated in the general debate. Speakers echoed the view that small island developing States were "front-line" areas, uniquely vulnerable to

UN Photo

UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL CONFERENCE
ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES
BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS
APRIL 25 - MAY 06, 1994

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali opens the Barbados Conference with a call for international support for island States.

UN Photo 57684/U.S. Navy

A tin-roofed dwelling in a Pacific island village.

climate change, external economic factors and threats to their cultural and biological diversity. They faced a host of problems resulting from unsustainable economic and environmental practices, ranging from over-fishing of once abundant stocks and overdevelopment of tourism, to pollution and hazardous waste disposal, exacerbated by the islands' small size and relative isolation.

Speakers cited obstacles they faced in implementing sustainable development strategies. For example, an increasing number of insurance companies were refusing to provide coverage of island States, making it difficult to attract foreign investment. Many paid tribute to the efforts of the Alliance of Small Island States in advancing their cause.

During a high-level segment of the Conference on 5 and 6 May, 46 speakers, including 14 Heads of State and Government, as well as a large number of special representatives and ministers, made statements on the theme, "Forging Partnership for Sustainable Development".

In his capacity as Conference President, Mr. Sandiford expressed the common view that partnership for sustainable development meant "collaboration, cooperation and companionship, not foreign aid". It meant, in his words, a multilateralism which provided the developing world, and small island developing States in particular, with the means to fully participate in global environmental protection while fulfilling their needs for development.

Many speakers on the theme stressed that, while sustainable development was the primary responsibility of island States, the problems they faced often originated beyond their borders and required international solutions. One speaker said that small islands should become the models of sustainable development, provided they were given the means to prevent, not just repair, damage.

Representatives of 88 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) attended the Conference as observers. They organized an NGO Islands Forum, featuring lectures and workshops, and a "Village of Hope", portraying island themes.

The 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro, recognizing the special challenges of small island developing countries, had called for the holding of the conference. Subsequently, the General Assembly on 22 December 1992, in resolution 47/189, had reiterated the call for a global conference to ensure that strategies and measures to enhance the sustainable development of small islands would be elaborated.

Blueprint for change

Intended to foster sustainable development in small island developing States, while preserving their unique cultural and ecological diversity, the Programme of Action that was agreed upon sets out a basis for action in a number of established priority areas: climate change and sea-level rise; natural and environmental disasters; waste management; coastal, marine, freshwater, land, and energy resources; tourism; biodiversity; national and regional institutions; transport and communication; science and technology; and human resources development.

The Action Programme recommends a number of policies related to environmental and development planning that should be undertaken by small island developing States, both nationally and regionally, as well as with the international community's cooperation and assistance.

On **climate change and sea-level rise**, small island developing States would ensure early ratification or accession to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change—opened for signature at UNCED and legally binding as of March 1994—which calls for developed country parties to take measures to return their

Sherbourne Centre, site of the Barbados Conference.

UN Photo

Dame Nita Barrow,
Governor-General of Barbados

emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by the year 2000. These provisions, the Programme stated, should be considered "inadequate" for the long term, and further action might be required to make satisfactory progress. Small island countries were encouraged to "monitor, survey and collect data on climate change and sea-level rise" and formulate comprehensive adjustment and mitigation policies for sea-level rise in the context of integrated coastal area management.

With regard to **natural and environmental disasters**, at least 13 of the 25 most disaster-prone countries were small island developing States, the Programme stated. Establishing and/or strengthening disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, including building codes, was called for. States were asked to strengthen the capacity of local broadcasting to assist remote atolls during disasters, and to establish a national disaster emergency fund, with joint private and public sector support, for areas where insurance was not available in the commercial market. At the regional level, the Programme recommended increased access to telecommunication links and satellite facilities for disaster monitoring, assessment and information exchange. International action should include improving access to technology and relevant training to assist with hazard and risk assessment and early warning systems.

In terms of **waste management**, small island developing States "will need to look for ways of minimizing wastes and/or converting wastes, such as sewage, into a resource", stated the Action Programme. Recommended national actions were, among others: development and implementation of regulatory measures to control and monitor pollution, and to safely and efficiently manage toxic, hazardous and solid wastes; establishment of port facilities to collect waste from ships; and introduction of clean technologies and treatment of waste at the source.

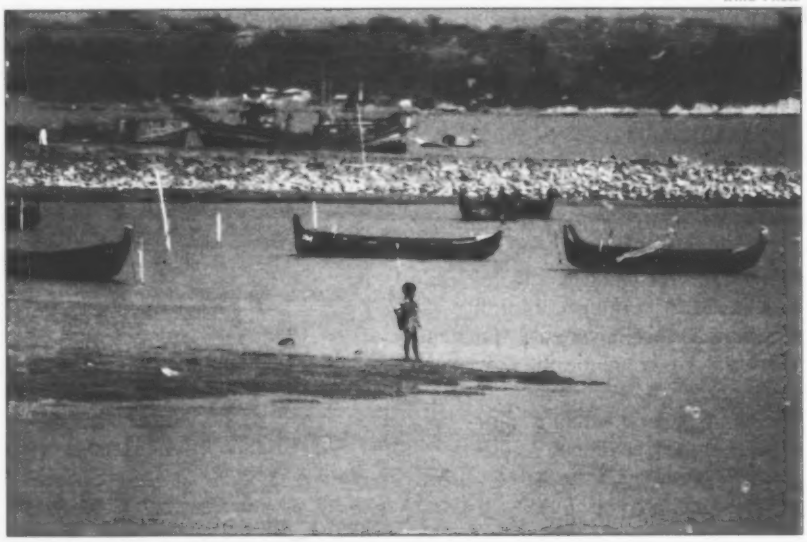
On monitoring **coastal and marine resources**, the establishment of institutional and legislative arrangements to develop integrated coastal zone management plans and strategies for watersheds and exclusive economic zones were called for. Regional policies and strategies for coordination of the management and utilization of these resources should be harmonized, and the international community should provide support in developing inventories of marine resources, the Programme stated.

With regard to **freshwater resources**, many health hazards in developing countries were related to poor water quality and limited quantity, according to the Action Programme. Even where rainfall was abundant, access to clean water was restricted by inadequate storage facilities and delivery systems, and contamination of supply.

Small islands should develop, maintain and protect watershed areas, irrigation systems and water distribution and collection networks, and promote programmes for water conservation and contamination prevention programmes, the Programme stated. To that end, regional and international partners should provide appropriate technical assistance and improve access by islands to environmentally-sound technologies.

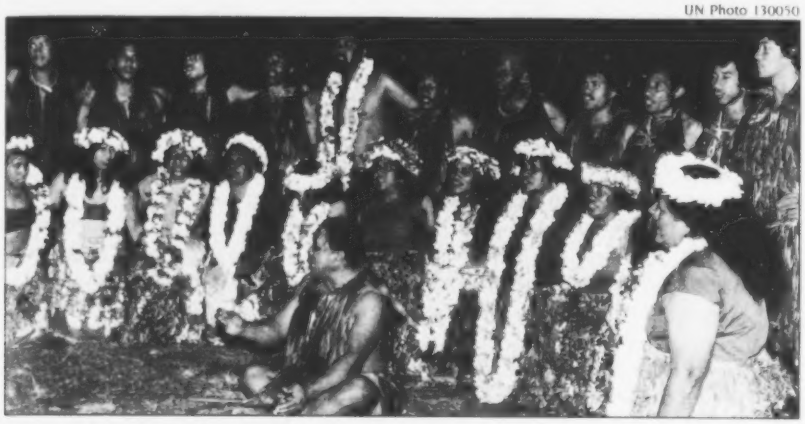
With regard to limited **land resources**, the land area of small islands was becoming increasingly degraded due to overuse, deforestation and natural disasters. Comprehensive land-use plans and regulations and economic incentives to promote sustainable use and conservation of land, improved land tenure and administration systems, and support for reforestation programmes were urged by the Programme.

WMO Photo



Small islands . . . Big issues.

UN Photo 130050



Dancers in traditional festival costumes, Niue.

Energy often accounted for more than 12 per cent of imports by small island developing States, which were heavily dependent on imported petroleum products for transport and electricity generation. They were also heavily dependent on indigenous biomass fuels for cooking and crop drying, according to the Programme. There was little large-scale use of renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind power, due to a lack of technology, investment capital and experience. According to the Programme, small islands should promote conservation and efficient utilization of energy and strengthen research capabilities, with regional and international support.

Although **tourism** was a main source of revenue for many small islands and had contributed greatly to their development, if not properly planned and managed, its impact on their environment and individual cultures could endanger the islands' beauty and diversity. National policies should ensure that tourism development and environmental management were "mutually supportive", according to the Programme. Other recommendations were: requiring environmental impact assessments for all tourism projects; development of guidelines and standards for design and construction of tourist facilities to minimize ecological harm; and adoption of measures to protect the cultural integrity of small island developing States. Regional cooperative efforts should aim to harmonize industry standards and regulations and improve tour marketing and packaging. According to the Programme, eco-tourism—linking areas of high ecological value to low-impact tourism — might present important and environmentally sustainable opportunities for tourism development in small island developing States.

The **biodiversity** of small islands was being threatened by deforestation, coral reef deterioration, habitat degradation and loss, and the introduction of certain non-indigenous species. Island States were encouraged to ratify and implement the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, and other relevant conventions. They should also "generate and maintain buffer stocks or gene banks of biogenetic resources for reintroduction into the natural habitat", especially after natural disasters, the Programme stated.

As regards **national institutions**, integrating environmental considerations into national decision-making processes was the "single most important step to be taken by small island developing States" to address environmental problems, the Programme of Action stated. Governments should establish or strengthen environmental agencies with adequate financial and staff resources, increase the involvement of NGOs and other local groups in development programmes, and provide adequate resources to enforce environmental regulations. With the international community's support, small islands should develop a sustainable development information network to facilitate exchange of experience among them.

Their limited human resources and their small size made it especially important for small island States to pool their resources through **regional institutions** and cooperation, the Programme stated. They should establish and support regional sustainable development centres for research, training and development of endogenous technology.

Transport and communication were the "lifelines" linking small island developing States with each other and the outside world, and were vital to achieving sustainable development. Distance and isolation had resulted in relatively high transport costs, limiting options for many islands, especially for many rural and outer-island communities. A major challenge, according to the Programme, was to develop

A 'litmus test'

As the first follow-up conference at the global level to emerge from UNCED, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States was viewed by planners and participants as a sort of "litmus test" to determine the effectiveness of the global partnership formed in Rio in 1992. Many delegates expressed their frustration and disappointment in the lack of financial commitment from the developed countries.

At a 2 May press conference, Penelope Wensley of Australia, who chaired negotiations on the Programme of Action, expressed her belief that the Programme of Action placed the sustainable development of small islands squarely on the international agenda and that holding a conference to address specific concerns of these islands was in itself a significant achievement.

low-cost, high-tech methods for moving cargo and to improve community access to telephone, radio and related services. The need for increased regional cooperation in civil aviation, shipping and telecommunications was also highlighted.

The Programme of Action maintained that **science and technology**, which were crucial to achieving sustainable development, remained underdeveloped in small island developing States. Small islands should promote research and development, and encourage the use of endogenous environmentally-friendly technologies through regulations and economic incentives. The role of women in science and technology disciplines should be promoted and strengthened. At the regional level, ocean sciences networks for collecting data and disseminating information relevant to small island States were urged. The international community should also "promote the free flow of, and access to, data and information resulting from marine scientific research", the Programme stated.

Poor health, nutrition and social services, substandard housing, low levels of female participation in development, high population densities and growth, and lack of information and means relating to family planning indicated a strong need for attention to **human resources development** in small island States, according to the Programme.

With regional and international support, small islands should improve urban and rural settlements, giving priority to improving basic services and eliminating poverty, the Programme stated. The islands should strengthen the role of major groups, including NGOs and in particular women, in sustainable development initiatives and improve the quality of education and training for all.

The final section of the Programme of Action, considered by many as the most critical, concerned its implementation, monitoring and review. It stated that Governments would be primarily responsible for implementing the Programme of Action, and the support and cooperation of the international community and the UN would be essential. For small island developing States, regional and subregional efforts had proved successful and would remain the principal instruments for collective action.

Specific recommendations included a call for feasibility studies by the UN Development Programme on a small island developing States information network and on a technical assistance programme, and the creation of an entity within the UN Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development to act as the focal point on Conference follow-up. The UN Commission on Sustainable Development was asked to review implementation of the Programme of Action in 1996 and again in 1999.

It was stated that the Action Programme was part of the process of the implementation of Agenda 21—the global plan of action adopted at UNCED. The final negotiated language on finance acknowledged that "implementation of the programme of action will require the provision of effective means, including adequate, predictable, new and additional financial resources" in accordance with Chapter 33 of Agenda 21. ■

Undermining a global partnership

An independent panel of 10 experts with special experience in the field of sustainable development was convened on 21 and 22 April, prior to the Conference. The Group of Eminent Persons on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States decried the failure of the developed countries to honour the commitments made at UNCED, which they believed was "undermining the global partnership" forged in Rio. Without access to the needed resources and technology, developing countries could not fulfill their part of the bargain, the Group stated.

The Group noted that small island developing States, when considered collectively, exercised jurisdiction over one sixth of the earth's surface and represented one fifth of the membership of the UN and its agencies. It believed that these States should recognize their combined strategic strength in pursuing sustainable development. In that regard, the Group paid tribute to the important role being played by the 41-member Alliance of Small Island States, which they believed should be strengthened and supported as appropriate.

Among other recommendations were that special measures should be developed to mobilize and facilitate investment in small island developing States and that proposals to establish a technical assistance programme for these States should be supported. They also highlighted the need for an equitable, non-discriminatory and supportive international economic and trading climate conducive to sustainable development of small island developing States, as well as better telecommunication and data transfer systems among these States.

The members of the Eminent Persons Group were: Chief Chukwuemeka (Emeka) Anyaoku, Commonwealth Secretary-General; Mrs. Ella Cisneros, President, Together Foundation for Global Unity, Venezuela; Ian Cumming, Chairman, Leucadia National Corporation, New York; Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, President of Maldives; Samuel R. Insanally, President of the forty-eighth General Assembly session and Guyana's Permanent Representative to the UN; Tetsuo Koyama, economic botanist and adviser to the delegation of Japan; Ms. Hilda Lini, Member of Parliament, Vanuatu; Mrs. Fetaui Mata'afa, High Commissioner of Western Samoa to New Zealand; Sir Shridath Ramphal, Chancellor, University of the West Indies; and Maurice Strong, Chairman, Earth Council.

New Commission experiences 'eventful' first year

Culminating its first year of work, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development adopted 14 decisions on sectoral and cross-sectoral issues pertaining to development and the environment, including freshwater, toxic chemicals, hazardous and radioactive wastes, human health and human settlements, as well as finance, decision-making structures and the role of major groups in sustainable development.

At its second annual session (16-27 May, New York), a high-level segment with ministerial participation was held (25-27 May) to conduct an overview of the progress made in implementing "Agenda 21"—the wide-ranging plan of action adopted in Rio de Janeiro at the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development, widely known as the Earth Summit.

The 53-member Commission, formally established in February 1993, is charged with monitoring the progress made by Governments and the international community towards implementing Agenda 21 objectives. It is responsible for activities related to the integration of environmental and developmental goals throughout the UN system.

"The Commission's work has as its point of departure the recognition that it is impossible to divide the earth into a first, second and third world", said Commission Chairman Klaus Topfer, Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature, Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany, at the opening meeting on 16 May.

"Peace is under threat not only from belligerent conflicts, but also from the juxtaposition of ecologically subsidized development on the one hand, and underdevelopment on the other." Thus, he stated, "the global partnership embracing both environment and development is increasingly becoming the peace policy of the future".

The Commission's first year had been an eventful one, according to outgoing Chairman Razali Ismail of Malaysia. Its biggest challenge had been to mobilize adequate resources to implement its objectives and sustain the spirit and momentum generated in Rio.

"Shifting emphasis and the shirking of responsibility threatened to undermine the Rio consensus", he said on 16 May. He cautioned that the Commission would not be remembered by its proliferation of meetings, but "its lasting contribution will be in finding equitable solutions to present-day survival issues".

> "It is impossible to divide the earth into a first, second and third world"

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, addressing the high-level meeting on 25 May, stressed that the crucial challenge was to maintain political will. "We must not falter. We must keep up the momentum of Rio. This Commission must take the lead."

Since peace, development and environmental protection are inseparable, sustainable development will be achieved only if Government, the business world, industry, labour, science, and environmental human rights and citizens' groups work together", states the first report *(E/CN.17/1994/13)* of the High-level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development, created in July 1993 to provide advice, proposals and recommendations on issues and themes addressed by the Commission.

Among its decisions, the Commission recommended that States and international organizations consider the use of partnerships with business and non-governmental organizations, which would lead to non-legally binding agreements as first steps in the preparation of international regulations for implementing Agenda 21.

On the transfer of environmentally-sound technology, the Commission concluded that, as foreign direct investment was a major source of technology transfer, competent UN agencies should assist Governments in providing appropriate policy and regulatory environments to attract foreign investment.

The Commission expressed great concern that many countries are facing a water crisis. It recommended that high priority be given to the conservation and sustainable use of water, also through the implementation of the "polluter pays" principle. It urged the UN system to carry out a comprehensive assessment of fresh water resources.

The Commission also recommended the development of legally binding instruments for the so-called prior-informed-consent procedure related to the export of toxic chemicals. It also encouraged further efforts to reduce human exposure to lead.

Governments were urged to promptly begin work on the development of an international convention on the safety of radioactive waste management, including consideration of the total life cycle management of nuclear materials. ■

Plan of Action for a safer world

World Conference adopts Yokohama Strategy for natural disasters

Natural disasters continue to strike and increase in magnitude, complexity, frequency and economic impact. At the same time, awareness of the process and potential benefits of disaster reduction is still confined to specialized circles, and has not yet been adequately communicated to policy makers and the general public.

So concluded the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, convened in Yokohama, Japan from 23 to 27 May, at the mid-point of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (1990-2000).

Calling for development of a "global culture of prevention" and improved risk assessment, broader monitoring and communication of warnings, the Conference adopted the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation.

The document includes: an assessment of disaster reduction since the beginning of the Decade; a strategy for the year 2000 and beyond; a plan of action for activities at the community and national levels, at the regional and subregional levels, and at the international level; and recommendations for follow-up action.

"Earthquakes and cyclones will happen. There is nothing we can do about that, but we can be prepared for them when they do strike", said the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Peter Hansen, at the opening session of the Conference on 23 May.

"Disaster reduction can take place at any point in the process which we call 'disaster'. It can comprise prevention and preparedness, relief and development, as well as measures to reduce the effects of such disasters."

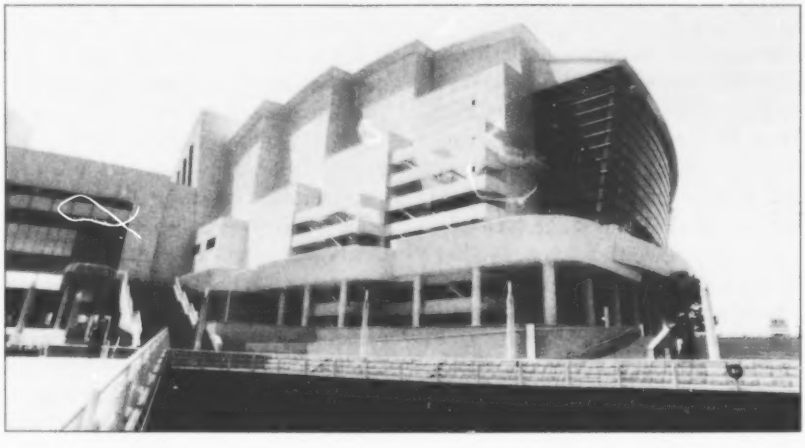
The "Yokohama Message", summarizing the outcome of the Conference *(see box, p. 73)*, affirms that the impact of natural disasters in terms of human and economic losses has risen and society has become more vulnerable to such disasters. The hardest hit and least able to cope are the poor and socially disadvantaged in developing countries, it states.

Over the past two decades, earthquakes, volcanoes, landslides, tidal waves, droughts and other natural events had killed some 3 million people and inflicted injury, displacement

Miami Herald

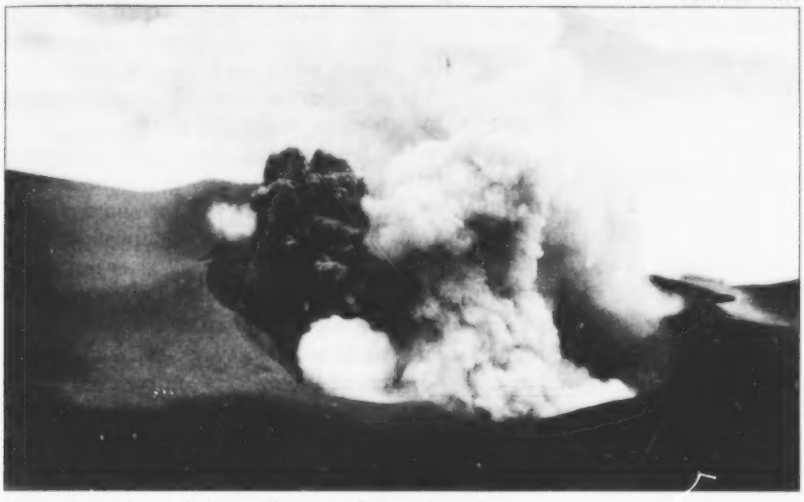
The devastating effects of Hurricane Andrew in 1992 at a Florida trailer park *(above)*. The Pacific Convention Plaza Yokohama (Pacifico Yokohama), where Conference participants gathered *(below)*.

UN Photo



Prevention is better than cure

UN Photo 85876



Volcanic eruptions destroy villages and disrupt weather.

and misery on countless more, Mr. Hansen told reporters in New York on 18 May. In fact, there had been a steady increase over the past 30 years in the number of significant natural disasters. The number of people affected had increased by 6 per cent per year, three times the global population growth rate.

However, prevention and mitigation were possible, Mr. Hansen went on, citing Jamaica, where in 1951 Hurricane Charlie resulted in 150 deaths, while in 1988 a much worse Hurricane Gilbert killed only 45 people. That was how far that Caribbean nation had come in preventive measures, he said.

Moreover, disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and relief are interrelated, contributing to and gaining from the implementation of sustainable development, the "Yokohama Message" states. Since disaster prevention is better than disaster response in achieving the goals of the Decade, nations should incorporate that principle in their development plans along with efficient follow-up measures.

Attended by 1,000 delegates, including representatives of 147 countries and territories (South Africa participated in a UN General Assembly Conference for the first time since the early 1970s), a major goal of the Conference was to bring together for the first time senior policy makers, technical experts and representatives of non-governmental organizations to develop an action plan to put the results of science and technology at the service of disaster-prone regions of the world.

The action plan—called for in December 1989 under General Assembly resolution 44/236, by which the Decade was proclaimed—will be of particular importance to developing countries, where 90 per cent of the world's natural disasters occur.

A statement of principles, set out at the beginning of the Conference final document, maintains that risk assessment is a required step for the adoption of adequate and successful disaster reduction policies and measures. Vulnerability can be reduced by the application of proper design and patterns of development focused on target groups, as well as by appropriate education and training of the whole community.

It was also pointed out that environmental protection as a component of sustainable development consistent with poverty alleviation is imperative in the prevention and mitigation of natural disasters.

Mid-decade assessment

In reviewing the progress made during the first five years of the Decade, the final document states that activities in the fields of training, technical applications and research at all levels have had positive results in some regions in reducing disaster losses. However, results have been achieved "unevenly and not in a concerted and systematic way as envisaged by the General Assembly".

The document further states that existing tools for improvements in disaster response, as part of a comprehensive approach towards disaster management, "are not always utilized to the full extent of their potential". Also, the "potential of the information media, industry, scientific community and the private sector at large has not been sufficiently mobilized", it says.

Continued emphasis on disaster response by the UN system has "slowed down the momentum of the

UN Photo 80150

An African flood.

Decade's initial phase". Moreover, not all UN bodies have contributed to the implementation of the Decade "to the extent possible", states the document.

It calls for strengthening the resilience of local communities to cope with natural disasters through recognition and propagation of their traditional knowledge, practices and values in development activities, and enlarging the focus of disaster reduction to cover environmental and technological disaster situations.

"Acts of nature cannot be abolished", asserted Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in a videotaped message to the Conference on 23 May. "But development can help prevent future natural disasters. It is increasingly difficult to differentiate between man-made and natural disasters. . . . Demographic and environmental pressures contribute to natural disasters. War starts mass movements of people, infrastructure suffers, and disaster can swiftly follow."

Strategy for the Year 2000

The Strategy for the Year 2000 and beyond calls for development of a "global culture of prevention as an essential component of an integrated approach to disaster reduction". It also urges adoption of a policy of self-reliance in each vulnerable country and community, with the involvement and active participation of the people in disaster reduction, prevention and preparedness.

The Strategy calls for effective national legislation and higher priority at the political decision-making level on natural disaster reduction.

"A coordinated international strategy for disaster mitigation is like preventive diplomacy: it reduces the threat of disasters before they become crisis situations", said Under-Secretary-General Hansen on 23 May. "The effect of natural events can be reduced as long as we have the human and financial resources, and Governments have the political will, to put appropriate measures in place."

Plan of Action

The Plan of Action calls on all countries to "express the political commitment to reduce their vulnerability" by means of "declaration, legislation, policy decisions and action at the highest level, which would require the progressive implementation of disaster assessment and reduction plans at the national and community levels".

The Plan urges nations to develop risk assessment programmes and emergency plans, as well as comprehensive national disaster management plans, focusing on disaster preparedness, response and mitigation. It calls for the strengthening of clearly identified bodies, such as national committees, charged with promoting and coordinating disaster reduction activities, and recommends clear identification of specific disaster prevention needs which could use the knowledge or expertise available in other countries or in the UN system.

Recognizing the many common aspects of disaster vulnerability among countries of the same region, the Plan calls for establishment of regional centres for disaster reduction and prevention, and improvement in regional communications capabilities to strengthen early warning mechanisms for disaster reduction.

At the international level, the Plan calls for contributions to fund the implementation of the Decade's goals and asks donor countries to increase the priority in their assistance programmes for disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness. The Plan also recommends

UN Photo

Crown Prince Naruhito and Crown Princess Masako of Japan *(left, centre)* at the opening of the Conference. *Below,* delegates gathered inside the Conference hall to review ways to better address potential disaster situations.

UN Photo

Prevention is better than cure

that disaster prevention and mitigation become an integrated component of development projects financed by multilateral institutions.

The Decade's Trust Fund should give priority to financing the establishment of early warning systems in disaster-prone developing countries, particularly the least-developed, land-locked and small island developing States.

Coordination of international disaster management, in particular by the UN system, is paramount for an integrated approach to disaster reduction and should be strengthened, it states.

Lastly, the Plan of Action recommends the holding of a review conference on natural disaster reduction at the end of the Decade, in order to map a strategy for continued disaster reduction activities into the twenty-first century.

Overall, the Conference showed "how the vision and scope of the United Nations is changing. A broader concept of development is now necessary. It must encompass natural disaster reduction", said Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali in his videotaped message. "Prevention is better than cure." ■

Excerpts from
The 'Yokohama Message'

Disaster response alone is not sufficient, as it yields only temporary results at a very high cost. We have followed this limited approach for too long. This has been further demonstrated by the recent focus on response to complex emergencies which, although compelling, should not divert from pursuing a comprehensive approach. Prevention contributes to lasting improvement in safety and is essential to integrated disaster management.

The world is increasingly interdependent. All countries shall act in a new spirit of partnership to build a safer world based on common interests and shared responsibility to save human lives, since natural disasters do not respect borders.

The information, knowledge and some of the technology necessary to reduce the effects of natural disasters can be available in many cases at low cost and should be applied. Appropriate technology and data, with the corresponding training, should be made available to all, freely and in a timely manner, particularly to developing countries.

Community involvement and active participation should be encouraged in order to gain greater insight into the individual and collective perception of development and risk, and to have a clear understanding of the cultural and organizational characteristics of each society, as well as of its behaviour and interactions with the physical and natural environment. This knowledge is of the utmost importance to determine those things which favour and hinder prevention and mitigation or encourage or limit the preservation of the environment for the development of future generations, and in order to find effective and efficient means to reduce the impact of disasters.

The adopted Yokohama Strategy and related Plan of Action for the rest of the Decade and beyond will note that each country has the sovereign responsibility to protect its citizens from natural disasters.

The framework of action of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction provides all vulnerable countries, in particular the developing countries, with the opportunity to achieve a safer world by the end of this century and beyond. In this regard, the international community and the United Nations system in particular must provide adequate support to the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and its mechanisms, especially the secretariat of the Decade to enable them to carry out their mandate.

The Yokohama Conference is at a crossroad in human progress. In one direction lie the meagre results of an extraordinary opportunity given to the United Nations and its Member States. In the other direction, the United Nations and the world community can change the course of events by reducing the suffering from natural disasters. Action is urgently needed.

Nations should view the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World as a call to action, individually and in concert with other nations, to implement policies and goals reaffirmed in Yokohama, and to use the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction as a catalyst for change.

Desertification Convention adopted

In a concerted effort to help over 900 million people around the world fight the life and death battle against the degradation of their fragile drylands—the process known as desertification—more than 100 Governments concluded negotiations on 18 June in Paris on a global legal agreement to address the situation.

UN Photo 164693/I. Isaac

Ravages of the African drought.

The adoption of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa was the culmination of 13 months of work. The text was formulated by a special Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee over five sessions, the last of which had begun on 6 June.

Committee Chairman Bo Kjellen of Sweden, who oversaw the intense drafting process, called the Convention "an important step forward" towards improving life in the drylands, in that it establishes a framework for national, subregional and regional programmes to counter desertification, which is occurring worldwide at an accelerated rate, affecting some 25 per cent of the Earth's land area.

Caused by overgrazing, overcropping, poor irrigation practices, deforestation and other unsustainable socio-economic practices, as well as by climate variations, this situation is especially serious in Africa, where 66 per cent of the continent is desert or dryland.

The Convention calls for international action, including the mobilization of "substantial financial resources", transfer of anti-desertification technologies from developed to developing countries, information exchange, and research and training programmes. Four annexes detail how the agreement will be implemented regionally in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Northern Mediterranean, respectively.

One particularly innovative feature is that it commits countries to a "bottom-up approach" that calls for local populaces and national authorities to work with the international community, which is indicative of the recognition that desertification must be fought at the grass-roots level.

The Convention, which was called for at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro and mandated by the General Assembly in resolution 47/188 for completion by June 1994, will be opened for signature at a special high-level meeting of Government ministers, to be held in Paris on 14 and 15 October 1994. It will enter into force 90 days after it has been ratified by 50 countries, a process which is expected to take approximately two years.

In the interim, a resolution was adopted by the Committee calling for "urgent action for Africa". It recommended that affected African countries and donor nations initiate without delay implementation of the Convention. Another resolution called for a sixth Committee session, to be held in January 1995, to begin the work of coordination and monitoring, which would later be taken over by a Conference of Parties, composed of the countries ratifying the agreement.

A previous UN Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, adopted in 1977, fell short of expectations, it has been reported, because of inadequate funding and a too narrow, technical focus. It failed to give enough recognition to the socio-economic causes of the problem and did not involve local populations in the process.

To improve the effectiveness of existing international finance, the Convention establishes a "Global Mechanism" to identify and coordinate available funding sources. Also, under the new text, Governments are urged to pursue the possibility of financing anti-desertification action through the Global Environment Facility (GEF), in cases where curbing desertification can be linked with the GEF's four mandated funding areas: preventing climate change; ensuring the conservation of biological diversity; protecting international waterways; and reducing depletion of the ozone layer. The GEF is the interim financing channel for the legal agreements—the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change—signed at the Earth Summit. ■

UN Photo 154257/I. Isaac

In Chad, where once a river ran.

A meaningful reminder to help needy children

By Elsa B. Endrst

A child's expression of gratitude in post-war ravaged Europe launched a multi-million-dollar programme that has become a worldwide expression of hope for children.

In 1949, seven-year-old Jitka Samkova sent a hand-painted thank-you note to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) for sending food, clothing and medicines to her small village in Czechoslovakia. The artwork—depicting children dancing joyously around a maypole—provided the image for the first UNICEF greeting card.

Jitka's drawing: first UNICEF greeting card.

The Christmas season of 1994 will mark the 45th anniversary of the UNICEF Greeting Card Operation (GCO), which was the first of its kind to print and sell cards for charitable purposes. Over the years, some 3 billion cards have been sold in 44 countries for a total net profit of some $500 million—enough money to immunize more than 33 million children against polio, measles, tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. This year, the Fund expects to sell some 170 million cards.

Today, more than 2,600 artists—representing more than 140 countries, including such world-renowned masters as Picasso, Chagall, Miro and Matisse—have generously donated rights to reproduce their works.

The artwork for UNICEF cards is chosen each year from some 6,000 designs assembled by UNICEF staff in Geneva and New York. National committees representing UNICEF in their respective countries, in consultation with art experts, choose about 100 works for their national distribution.

The most inspiring, energizing and motivating aspect of UNICEF's GCO, says its director Reinhard Yoav Freiberg, is that it encourages public support for the goals of the 1990 World Summit for Children—the survival, protection and development of children all over the world.

Originally, UNICEF card themes focused on children and the spirit of internationalism. Religious themes were avoided in the early years. Since the 1960s, however, religious diversity has become an important component. The mother-and-child theme and the dove of peace—with the word "peace" printed in the official languages of the UN—are constant best sellers.

In the United States, the cards are traditionally marketed by hundreds of UNICEF volunteers and civic and religious organizations. They are also sold by mail-order, at retail outlets and chain stores, and to corporations that have them imprinted with company names or customized holiday greetings.

The sale of one card, UNICEF points out, can provide a sterile dressing for a child's wound; 4 cards can immunize 18 children; 10 cards are equivalent to 200 antibiotic capsules; 35 cards, enough vitamin A to protect 800 toddlers against blindness; and 50 cards, a baby-scale for a health centre.

The 1994 UNICEF catalogue offers many new gift items, including puzzles, games, atlases, cookbooks, earrings, a brooch commemorating the International Year of the Family (1994), and a handcrafted dolls-of-the-world wreath from Guatemala.

GCO Director Freiberg concludes: "Our operation has become one of the most successful expressions of hope for children through the UN family. It has shown people that you, as an individual, can participate in the work of the UN through UNICEF. We have never considered the Greeting Card Operation as being only UNICEF. We've always considered it as an advocacy vehicle to allow people to become part, and to get personally involved in the work, of the UN." ■

To receive a free catalogue or find the location of the UNICEF card and gift outlet nearest you, call 1-800-FOR-KIDS or write to the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, 333 East 38th Street, New York, NY 10016.

Conversations in a Mansion: *Designing the UN*

by Harold Fruchtbaum

Using a gavel made of wood from the *USS Constitution*, the American warship of 1797 known as "Old Ironsides", United States Secretary of State Cordell Hull rapped the inaugural meeting of the Dumbarton Oaks Conversations to order. The high-level civilian and military representatives of the Soviet Union (USSR), the United Kingdom and the United States had gathered on 21 August 1944 in the mid-morning cool of Dumbarton Oaks, a Washington D. C. mansion set in gardens amidst a landscaped park, to begin informal discussions about detailed proposals to establish a general international organization for maintaining peace and security following the Second World War.

Built in 1801 and expanded after 1920 to house the owner's collections of art and books, Dumbarton Oaks had been given to Harvard University in 1940 for use as a research library and museum. The estate provided the seclusion and tranquillity in war-driven Washington that the scheduled Conversations needed.

Speaking for United States President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and himself, Mr. Hull welcomed the representatives and said: "It is our task here to help lay the foundations upon which, after victory, peace, freedom, and a growing prosperity may be built." The success or failure of the proposed institution "will depend upon the degree to which the participating nations are willing to exercise self-restraint and assume the responsibilities of joint action in support of the basic purposes of the organization". Similar views were expressed by the leaders of the Soviet and British delegations, Ambassador Andrei Andreyevich Gromyko and Sir Alexander Cadogan, respectively.

During the previous months, the momentum of the Allied armed forces on all war fronts made it imperative that decisions be taken toward fulfilling the commitment of China, the United Kingdom, the United States and the USSR in the Moscow Declaration of Four Nations on General Security of 30 October 1943 to found such an organization "at the earliest practicable date". The liberation of city after city in Europe and the scale of devastation underscored the need to plan for the postwar era. Discussions and the exchange of working papers among American, British and Soviet officials early in 1944 quickened the process. Concern about the design of the postwar world was also expressed by the Governments-in-exile of Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Norway.

By the end of May 1944, procedural arrangements for the Dumbarton Oaks Conversations were under way. Committees of experts in the United States Department of State, building on more than three years of earlier study, worked for several months drafting the tentative proposals that became the working paper of the Conversations.

AP/Wide World Photos

Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D. C.

Three participants: Sir Alexander Cadogan of Great Britain, Edward R. Stettinius of the United States and Andrei Gromyko of the Soviet Union.

Since the Soviet Union was not officially at war in the Far East, and given the reports of its strained relations with China, delicate negotiations brought agreement that the Conversations would take place in two phases. The United Kingdom and the United States would first meet with the Soviet Union and then with China. Phase one from 21 August until 28 September was immediately followed by phase two from 29 September to 7 October.

The "Proposals for the Establishment of a General International Organization"—the agreed recommendations of the four delegations—were made public on 9 October. With refinements and additions, the Proposals would serve as the basis for discussions at the San Francisco Conference, which began on 25 April 1945 and ended two months later with the signing of the UN Charter on 26 June. Nevertheless, the Dumbarton Oaks Proposals left a number of open questions, such as territorial trusteeship, which had received little discussion, and voting in the Security Council, a vexing issue at the Conversations. These and other matters, including the organization's initial membership and the drafting of the statute for the International Court of Justice, remained, but in the heady atmosphere of victory and the promise of peace and postwar cooperation, all seemed achievable. ■

BOOKWATCH

World Science Report 1993

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris, 1993
278 pp. $40/FF220 ISBN 92-3-102938-X

World Science Report 1993, the first of a new series to be produced by UNESCO every other year, is an extraordinary achievement. UNESCO Director-General Frederico Mayor, educated as a biochemist, says in the preface: "The publication of any document which purports to be a comprehensive and up-to-date report on a subject as complex as science and technology is a hazardous exercise." Especially difficult was the challenge to create a work that would be of interest to experts, as well as non-specialists, on the state of science worldwide. The challenge was met and the hazards overcome with clear writing and a well planned four-part book. In the first, experts review the condition of research and development region by region, an exercise that reveals how unequal the situation is. Part two considers the organization and measurement of scientific activity. International cooperation in science and technology, critical for implementing "Agenda 21", is then discussed. Finally, experts survey recent developments in mathematics, physics (including astronomy), chemistry and biology. With its illustrations, bibliographies and statistical tables, this volume offers both the eye and mind a feast.

The Human Rights Watch Global Report on Prisons

Human Rights Watch, New York, 1993
303 pp. $20. ISBN 1-56432-101-0

"Imprisonment", Human Rights Watch states in its *Global Report on Prisons*, "is by no means a marginal issue." Each year tens of millions are confined. "Condemned for often serious offenses, without powerful supporters, often poor and inarticulate, disproportionately comprising members of minorities suffering from discrimination . . . and removed from public view, prisoners are highly vulnerable to our worst impulses." As the *Global Report* shows, the findings of a six-year Human Rights Watch investigation of prison conditions in 20 countries confirm this. For example, "in country after country, punishments meted out within the prisons are cruel, humiliating and frequently applied in an arbitrary fashion without the slightest vestige of due process". It recommends that the UN establish a permanent working group on prison conditions with the mandate to conduct investigations, hold hearings and publish findings. An annual report by the Secretary-General on prison conditions worldwide and a yearly demographic survey of penal institutions are also recommended. This trenchant *Global Report* also calls for UN-sponsored international conferences on prison conditions and UN periodic examination and revision of its standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners.

Endangered Peoples

Art Davidson
Photographs by Art Wolfe and John Isaac
San Francisco, Sierra Club Books, 1993
195 pp. $30. ISBN 0-87156-457-2

Brilliant pictures, many by John Isaac—the dean of UN photographers—and the humane text by Art Davidson illuminate the on-going tragedy described in *Endangered Peoples*. While the number of the world's indigenous people may be between 200 million and 250 million, some estimate that 200,000 are killed yearly. Approximately 90 per cent of humankind's 6,000 languages will probably vanish in the next century. "Perhaps the most astonishing thing about this unprecedented loss of humanity is that so few people seem to notice", writes Mr. Davidson, who has worked with Native Alaskans for over 25 years. "I thought that 1993, the International Year for the World's Indigenous People, might become a turning point in the struggle of these groups to survive." Instead, "we are just beginning to understand the extent of the problem". This exquisite book enlarges our understanding by allowing indigenous people to speak about their lives, ideas and commitment to self-determination.

Child Neglect in Rich Nations

Sylvia Ann Hewlett
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), New York, 1993
61 pp. $6.95. Sales No. E.93.XX.USA.8 ISBN 92-806-3026-1

Some of the world's wealthiest nations "have short-changed children", political economist Sylvia Ann Hewlett argues in her cogent analysis for UNICEF. She documents the plight of the rising number of children living in poverty, in what she calls the "Anglo-American world". "An anti-child spirit is loose in these lands. Free markets, American style", she contends, "have not 'worked' for children." In fact "they have been a disaster". Not enough public money is being invested in children at the same time that falling wages and the rising cost of living sharply cut the time parents can devote to their offspring. Abandonment by fathers and the increased rate of divorce promote the spread of child poverty. Dr. Hewlett is hopeful, however, for business executives to "understand that the welfare of children cannot be left to the vagaries of the private market, because on the backs of these children rides the future prosperity of nations—and firms". What is needed are leaders with the political will to bring change, she concludes.

Reviewed by Prof. Harold Fruchtbaum
Columbia University, New York

UNICEF Board meets

Great progress had been achieved since the days when helping children was viewed as little more than a charity, "a moral nicety", James P. Grant, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) told the agency's Executive Board at the conclusion of a two-week series of meetings, constituting both its second regular and annual sessions (25 April-6 May, New York). The Board approved country programme activities in 15 countries.

WHO Assembly held 47th session

Restoring South Africa's full rights and privileges as a member of the World Health Organization (WHO) and recognizing the need for increased health assistance to Arab populations in the occupied territories were among actions taken at the World Health Assembly's forty-seventh session (2-12 May, Geneva). As the governing body of WHO, the 189-member Assembly also acted on topics ranging from the new joint and co-sponsored UN programme on HIV/AIDS to female genital mutilation and child nutrition. Addressing the world gathering, Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, WHO Director-General, noted encouraging developments, such as the eradication of dracunculiasis (guineaworm disease), the global effort to eliminate leprosy and the reduction of onchocerciasis (river blindness) in West Africa.

Eco-crime, traffic in minors addressed by Commission

States were called upon to enact laws to combat international traffic in minors and enforce procedures to punish environmental crimes in decisions adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its third session (26 April-6 May, Vienna). The 40-member Commission also agreed on the final plans for the Ninth UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, to be held in Tunis from 24 April to 5 May 1995, and recommended key issues for discussion at that event, including: the role of criminal law in protecting the environment; organized transnational crime; urban crime; corruption by public officials; modernization of criminal justice agencies; and violence against women. Plans were also endorsed for an International Conference on Preventing and Controlling Money Laundering and the Use of the Proceeds of Crime (18-20 June), and a World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime (24-26 October), taking place in the Italian cities of Courmayeur and Naples, respectively. The Commission is charged with developing, monitoring and reviewing the UN programme on crime prevention, and mobilizing support among Member States. It also coordinates the activities of interregional and regional institutions on crime prevention and criminal justice.

UN Photo

Some 10,000 children from over 100 countries contributed to *Rescue Mission: Planet Earth*, an illustrated adaptation of "Agenda 21". The book was presented to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 21 April in New York at a ceremony attended by senior representatives of the sponsoring organizations in the UN system.

Narcotic Drugs Commission creates advisory body

A new advisory body charged with assessing current drug control efforts was established by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-seventh session (13-21 April, Vienna). The 10-member intergovernmental ad hoc advisory group—created in response to a 1993 request by a special high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly—will assist the Executive Director of the UN International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) in evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of drug control efforts in the war against drugs. The Commission acts as the principal UN policy-making body on drug control and oversees the work of the UNDCP—created in 1990 to coordinate all UN drug control activities. During its nine-day session, the 53-member Commission adopted 12 texts dealing with issues ranging from reducing the supply of opiates to controlling money laundering, to improving the UN System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control.

'Operation Lifeline' staff seized in Sudan

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 10 June condemned the hijacking and seizure of UN staff of "Operation Lifeline Sudan" who had been held prisoner when their barge was hijacked in Jonglei. Three international and eight or nine local staff from the World Food Programme and the UN Children's Fund were on board the vessel, which was delivering relief supplies to Government- and Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army-controlled areas between Kosti and Juba. All were later released unharmed, but relief supplies were looted. Those responsible had not yet been identified, the Secretary-General stated.

Human rights bodies meet

Charged with monitoring steps taken by States parties to implement major international human rights instruments, four UN human rights bodies met during March, April and May. The Human Rights Committee at its fiftieth session (21 March-8 April, New York), reviewed reports from Cameroon, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Mexico. The 18-member Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2-20 May, Geneva) reviewed the situations in nine nations. Six reports on implementation of the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child were the focus of the sixth session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (5-22 April, Geneva). The Committee against Torture at its twelfth session (18-29 April) examined reports from Greece, Israel, Nepal and Switzerland on obligations under the 1984 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Progress made in implementing UNCTAD VIII 'Cartagena Commitment'

The Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) reported that considerable progress had been achieved in implementing the "Cartagena Commitment", adopted at the eighth session of UNCTAD, held in Colombia in 1992. At the conclusion of a mid-term review (25-27 May, Geneva), chaired by Al Sherif Fawaz Sharaf of Jordan, five working groups had dealt with investment and development finance, privatization, trade, technology transfer, and trade efficiency.

TNC Commission integration into UNCTAD proposed

Integration of the Commission on Transnational Corporations (TNCs) into the institutional machinery of UNCTAD was recommended at the Commission's twentieth session (2-11 May, Geneva). It was also recommended that it be renamed the UNCTAD Commission on International Investment and Transnational Corporations and become a subsidiary body of the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board. Thus, a single body to deal with international investment issues would be established within the UN system.

Safety Committee holds first session

A 25-article negotiating text for a future convention was adopted on 8 April by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of an International Convention Dealing with the Safety and Security of United Nations and Associated Personnel, as it concluded its first session (28 March-8 April, New York). Committee Chairman Philipe Kirsch of Canada said the events of 7 April in Rwanda—including the killing of at least 11 UN peace-keepers—highlighted the urgency of the task before the Committee, established under General Assembly resolution 48/37.

UNCITRAL adopts a new model law

A new model law on procedures to be followed in the procurement of services, and a guide to its enactment, were adopted by the 36-member UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), at its twenty-seventh session (31 May-17 June, New York). The text will be sent to Governments for favourable consideration when they enact or revise relevant laws.

UNU holds symposium on hazardous chemicals

An international symposium on environmental management and analysis of hazardous chemicals, organized by the United Nations University (UNU), was held on 15 and 16 June in Tokyo. Topics discussed included environmental laboratory operational issues and new environmental analytical methodologies.

Human rights 'Hot Line' established

A "Human Rights Hot Line"—a 24-hour telefax line to allow the UN Centre for Human Rights in Geneva to monitor and react rapidly to emergency information related to human rights situations—had been created, it was announced on 30 May. It would be available to victims of human rights violations and their relatives, as well as to non-governmental organizations.

STAMP CORNER

'Development through Partnership'

A set of six stamps on the theme "Development through Partnership"—commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of UNCTAD—will be released by the UN Postal Administration (UNPA) on 28 October. Designed by internationally-known graphic designer Luis Sarda of Spain, each stamp features the outline of the countries of the world, on which are superimposed bands of colours representing the concept of partnership and cooperation.

The stamps, printed in a total of 13 colours, were issued in denominations of 29 and 50 United States cents, 0.80 and 1.00 Swiss Francs, and 6 and 7 Austrian Schillings.

Annual collection folders of single mint stamps issued in 1994 will also be released on 29 October.

COMING UP

A preview of some important UN conferences and events

October–December 1994

New York

10 October	Fourth (special) Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child
October	Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination
29 November	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People—Special Meeting in Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People
November	UN Pledging Conference for Development Activities
December	Disarmament Commission, organizational session

Geneva

3-7 October	UNHCR—Executive Committee, 45th session
17 October-4 November	Human Rights Committee, 52nd session
21 November-9 December	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 11th session
December	GATT—Contracting Parties, 49th session

Vienna

31 October-17 November	International Narcotics Control Board, 57th session
7-11 November	UNIDO—Industrial Development Board, 13th session
8-9 December	IAEA—Board of Governors

Other locations

4-6 October	IMF/World Bank—annual meetings of the Boards of Governors, Madrid
24-26 October	World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime, Naples
24-28 October	Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, 38th session, Rome

Know
the
facts.

Subscribe
to

the
UN Chronicle
quarterly
magazine.

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 929 BIRMINGHAM, AL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

United Nations Publications
Subscription Office
P.O. Box 361
Birmingham, AL 35282-9363

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 929 BIRMINGHAM, AL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

United Nations Publications
Subscription Office
P.O. Box 361
Birmingham, AL 35282-9363

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 929 BIRMINGHAM, AL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

United Nations Publications
Subscription Office
P.O. Box 361
Birmingham, AL 35282-9363

SUBSCRIBE TO THE UN CHRONICLE

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❒ 1 Yr. $20.00 ❒ 1 Yr. Air Mail $35.00

❒ Payment Enclosed Charge my: ❒ Visa ❒ Master Card ❒ Am Ex

Acct. No. _____ Exp. _____

If not charged, payment must accompany the order

BECOME AN INFORMED WORLD CITIZEN

SUBSCRIBE TO THE UN CHRONICLE

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❒ 1 Yr. $20.00 ❒ 1 Yr. Air Mail $35.00

❒ Payment Enclosed Charge my: ❒ Visa ❒ Master Card ❒ Am Ex

Acct. No. _____ Exp. _____

If not charged, payment must accompany the order

BECOME AN INFORMED WORLD CITIZEN

SUBSCRIBE TO THE UN CHRONICLE

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❒ 1 Yr. $20.00 ❒ 1 Yr. Air Mail $35.00

❒ Payment Enclosed Charge my: ❒ Visa ❒ Master Card ❒ Am Ex

Acct. No. _____ Exp. _____

If not charged, payment must accompany the order

BECOME AN INFORMED WORLD CITIZEN

The UN Chronicle

A quarterly magazine that reports on:

- Peacekeeping
- Disarmament
- Economy and Trade
- Human Rights
- Environment
- Development
- Social Issues
- and more...

The UN Chronicle: *Required reading for people who want to know what's happening in the world today*

SUBSCRIBE NOW

UN Membership

Since its founding in 1945, United Nations membership has grown from 51 to 184. The countries represented in the Organization account for more than 98 per cent of the world's population.

1945	THE 51 FOUNDING MEMBERS:* Argentina, Australia, Byelorussia (Belarus), Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia (Czech Republic and Slovak Republic), Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Soviet Union (Russian Federation), Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Syria, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia
1946	Afghanistan, Iceland, Sweden, Thailand
1947	Pakistan, Yemen
1948	Myanmar
1949	Israel
1950	Indonesia
1955	Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nepal, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sri Lanka
1956	Japan, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia
1957	Ghana, Malaysia
1958	Guinea
1960	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Gabon, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Togo, Zaire
1961	Mauritania, Mongolia, Sierra Leone, United Republic of Tanzania
1962	Algeria, Burundi, Jamaica, Rwanda, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda
1963	Kenya, Kuwait
1964	Malawi, Malta, Zambia
1965	Gambia, Maldives, Singapore
1966	Barbados, Botswana, Guyana, Lesotho
1968	Equatorial Guinea, Mauritius, Swaziland
1970	Fiji
1971	Bahrain, Bhutan, Oman, Qatar, United Arab Emirates
1973	Bahamas, Germany
1974	Bangladesh, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau
1975	Cape Verde, Comoros, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Suriname
1976	Angola, Samoa, Seychelles
1977	Djibouti, Viet Nam
1978	Dominica, Solomon Islands
1979	Saint Lucia
1980	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Zimbabwe
1981	Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Vanuatu
1983	Saint Kitts and Nevis
1984	Brunei Darussalam
1990	Liechtenstein, Namibia
1991	Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Republic of Korea
1992	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
1993	Andorra, Czech Republic, Eritrea, Monaco, Slovak Republic, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

*The names of countries are those in use in 1945.

UN System

The agencies and programmes established by the United Nations over the last 48 years have given it increasing competence to deal with a wide range of international problems. The list below shows when major organizations were established.

1945	UNITED NATIONS
1946	UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)
1949	UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)
1951	Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
1957	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
1963	World Food Programme (WFP)
1964	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC)
1964	UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
1965	UN Development Programme (UNDP)
1965	UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
1969	UN Population Fund (UNFPA)
1972	Office of the UN Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO)
1972	UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
1973	United Nations University (UNU)
1974	World Food Council (WFC)
1976	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)
1978	UN Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)(UNCHS)
1991	UN Drug Control Programme (UNDCP)

REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

1947	Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
1947	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
1948	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
1958	Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
1973	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Linked to the UN are specialized intergovernmental organizations, some founded in the last century. The list below shows when these organizations or their predecessor bodies were either established or became specialized agencies.

1865	International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
1873	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
1874	Universal Postal Union (UPU)
1883	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
1919	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
1945	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
1945	International Monetary Fund (IMF)
1945	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)
1946	UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
1947	International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
1948	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
1948	World Health Organization (WHO)
1956	International Finance Corporation (IFC)
1958	International Maritime Organization (IMO)
1960	International Development Association (IDA)
1974	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
1986	UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
1988	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

SMALL ISLANDS Big ISSUES

United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Bridgetown, Barbados 25 April - 6 May 1994

INSIDE:

Paradise in peril: Action programme, Declaration adopted at UN Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States Barbados, April-May 1994

NEXT ISSUE:

World Summit for Social Development
Copenhagen, March 1995
Attacking poverty
Building solidarity
Creating jobs

WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Copenhagen, Denmark • 6-12 March 1995

United Nations
Department of Public Information ©